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THE EUROPEAN TIMES

INFOTECH TIMES
Page 23
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FRIDAY AUGUST 7 1992

Atrocities uncovered as Bush sets up full links with Slovenia and Bosnia

Serbs are executing civilians in detention camps, UK confirms

By MICHAEL BINYON AND PHILIP WEBSTER

BRITAIN yesterday gave the first indication that the West has firm evidence of detention camps in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where civilians have been executed at random.

Last night President Bush announced the setting up of full diplomatic relations with Slovenia and the Muslim-led regime in Bosnia in what may be preparation for a vigorous response to atrocities in the former Yugoslavia.

Whitehall officials said that at least ten large camps have been set up in Serb-controlled areas of Bosnia. Six appeared to be detention centres where civilians, mostly women and children, were held after being forced out of their homes during "ethnic cleansing" operations. They were kept in the camps, mostly in eastern Bosnia, until they were forcibly put on trains to Croatia.

The four other camps, in northeast Bosnia, were identified as prisoner-of-war camps for Muslim men of fighting age. Many had not been involved in fighting, but were simply men who were capable of doing so. The International Committee of the Red Cross has visited one POW camp at Manjaca, which is thought to contain between 3,000 and 5,000 prisoners.

The three other camps are at Puharska, Bosanski Novi and Omarska. A British official in London said conditions at Manjaca were "inhuman"; people were dying

and random executions had taken place. Britain had, however, no evidence of systematic executions. "In that sense it is not quite a death camp," the official said.

Many of the camps are in old schools, warehouses and stadiums. None has been purpose-built. "They are not quite like Strag-IT," he said.

How Whitehall has obtained the evidence of the camps' existence has not been disclosed. However, the Americans are said to have exactly the same information — much of which could have been gathered by satellite observation.

Not all camps in the former Yugoslavia are controlled by Serbs. The Red Cross has visited nine since June, several run by Croats and Muslims. Although they described conditions as "not good", they said that they were definitely "not death camps".

Despite the claim by the Bosnian government that there are 105 Serb-run prison camps holding tens of thousands of people, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees yesterday refused to publish its information about the camps. A spokesman confirmed that UNHCR officials had met Red Cross delegates, EC monitors and UN peacekeepers about the alleged abuse of prisoners in Topusko, a Croatian town, on July 3.

According to an internal UN memorandum obtained by The Times, the UNHCR had reports of at least four "concentration camps" in Bosnia on July 2. They were listed as Keraterm, a railway station in Prijedor where 100-200 Muslims were believed to be held; Trnopolje, also at a railway station in Prijedor, where women, children and old men were held; Omarska, in a purely Serbian village where Muslims were detained; and Manjaca, a "large camp" where Croat soldiers were also held.

"The treatment of Muslims and other minorities in the camps is reportedly atrocious, with regular beatings, deprivation of food and water, poor shelter, etc," the memo said. The document, which had the signature obliterated to preserve the anonymity of the source, also disclosed that UN peacekeepers in Croatia watched Muslims being herded up at a football field in Bosanski Novi, just across the border in Bosnia.

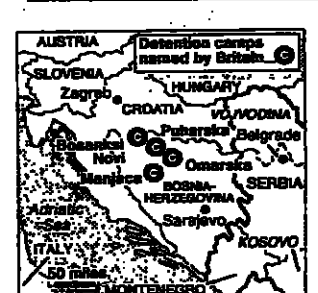
"The Serbs appear to be engaged in a determined process of forcefully disarming Muslims where they are clearly a small encircled minority, such as Bosanski Novi, or besieging their city totally, such as in Bihać," the document said. "Apparently the football field is the holding ground where Muslim groups are detained while their houses are being searched, the men isolated and transported to concentration camps." The UNHCR said it had passed the details to the Red Cross. The Foreign Office, acting on behalf of the presidency of the European Community yesterday condemned the detention camps as "repulsive and despicable". It said that anyone ordering or committing breaches of the Geneva conventions would be held personally responsible. The strongly worded statement was issued as Penny



Behind the wire: emaciated inmates of the camp in a disused mine at Omarska, Bosnia, are offered solace from a visiting television team

● Prijedor is being 'cleansed' now. In the blazing sun, Muslim women and children queue in front of the town hall to sign their property over to the municipality in exchange for exit or rather expulsion permits. They are too frightened to talk

Tim Judah reports from northern Bosnia on page 9



Marshall, an ITN reporter, described a camp she had visited in a disused mine at Omarska. She described shaven-headed emaciated prisoners, too terrified to talk, and interviewed former inmates who described prisoners being beaten to death.

The statement said the EC viewed "with deep concern" reports that a large number of Bosnian civilians were being detained in camps against their will, where they were subjected to ill-treatment by local Serb authorities. It called for the Red Cross to have immediate and unconditional access to all camps, prisons and detention centres to investigate allegations of ill-treatment. "The Community and its member states are appalled by the blatant disregard for humanitarian principles shown by some parties to the conflict," the statement said. "They have repeatedly made

clear that they condemn all forced expulsions on the grounds of ethnic background and all attacks on civilians, whoever is the perpetrator. Attacks on unarmed civilians are wholly contrary to the basic precepts of international humanitarian law."

The British embassy in Belgrade, in co-ordination with its Portuguese and Danish EC troika partners, is to seek a meeting with Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian leader, to deliver the text of the declaration and to ask him about the camps in northern and eastern Bosnia.

John Major yesterday denied criticism, principally from the leader of the Liberal Democrats, that he was failing to show leadership over Yugoslavia. The prime minister also continued to rule out the use of force.

Paddy Ashdown, who returned from Bosnia last Monday, has urged military action against the Serbs. He is planning to cut short his holiday and return to the region on Saturday at the invitation of Radovan Karadzic, the leader of the Bosnian Serbs. Dr

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US presses UN, page 9
Politics of atrocity, page 10
Leading article, page 11

Bosnians 'tortured with batons and fed to dogs'

By DAVID WATTS, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

AS REPORTS of brutal treatment in the prison camps of Bosnia leak out, an escaper has brought a horrifyingly detailed account of life in one near the Croatian border.

The escaper, an academic The Times will call Professor Mirsad, claimed last night that young Muslims and Croats are being tortured to death by ravenous alsatians or cut up with pieces of broken glass.

One young Muslim — believed to be a Green Beret fighter — was taken away after one torture session and given a blood transfusion before the brutality resumed. The young man did not survive long after that. "In the end, he died amongst us. They just went on till he was finished," The Serbs who ran the camp at Luka close to the town of Brcko made a point of torturing and murdering their victims in front of the rest of the inmates and took delight in holding up ten fingers — a sign that they planned to kill ten Muslims and Croats for each Serbian soldier killed. Brutality of an almost clinical kind was a daily reality, and the man was left with the impression the torturers were no amateurs: "They looked as though they were taught to do that."

The heavily lined middle-aged man who sat in a sunlit Chelsea flat yesterday left behind a son in the hands of the

federal army. He claims he saw 20 people killed during three weeks in the camp and estimates that perhaps 50 a day were dying from torture, malnutrition and illness. He escaped one night with a group of others by swimming the Sava river a hundred yards from the camp.

"They took me from my house. They put my hands up against the wall and beat me on the lower back. They said: 'This is Serbian Bosnia, you'll no longer live here.'"

He was taken to the camp and held in two large hanger-like buildings where the men were separated from the women. He was left without food or water overnight and then the torture began. They concentrated on the young men, potential enemies of the Serbian takeover. "They beat people with batons one and half metres long. They were so heavy they had to hold them with two hands," Professor Mirsad said. They bludgeoned the young men around the head with the batons, at first demanding to know whether their victims were members of the Muslim Green Beret fighters, demanding to know who was supplying money and weapons. Later the questions stopped. The torture did not.

At first, Professor Mirsad did not recognise any of the Serb jailers, but later he began to recognise some of

the young Serbs from the town, particularly the daughter of a local prostitute, Monika Simonovic. Everyone had thought of her as a mild, sweet-natured woman, but she appeared to enjoy her work cutting open bellies with a broken bottle or taking off

Continued on page 14, col 2

Barclays and BP reinforce economic gloom

By GEORGE SIVELL AND PHILIP WEBSTER

TWO of Britain's biggest companies, Barclays Bank and BP, delivered further blows to recovery hopes yesterday as they wrote off more than £2 billion on bad debts and restructuring.

Sir John Quinlan, the Barclays chairman, said: "I expect we could be well into 1993 or even 1994 before there are genuine signs of a revival."

Barclays had stunned the City with an 86 per cent fall in half-year pre-tax profits from £378 million to just £51 million. The bank set aside £1.1 billion to cover bad debts from business and property failures as well as personal customers.

BP meanwhile cut its dividend for only the second time, after setting aside £1,016 million to finance 11,500 redundancies around the world. The company explained that its markets had suffered for longer than it had expected and it had been forced to speed up rationalisation plans.

The halving of the quarterly dividend to 2.1p sent the group's shares below the £2 mark. Big investing institutions rely on dividends from companies such as BP for cash flow, and just after the BP announcement, the FT-SE 100 Index was showing a fall of more than 30 points, although it managed to recover, closing 15.2 points down at 2377.6.

Of BP's redundancies, 1,500 were declared in the South-East from the merger of BP Research and BP Engineering. The engineering site at Uxbridge, west London, will be closed and its workload transferred to Sunbury in Surrey. Staff were told yesterday in a letter saying that "the personal implications" would be known by October 2.

Stephen Dorrell, Treasury financial secretary, disputed Sir John's view of the economy and said there should be no panic because of short-term problems. "The important thing is to avoid the danger of talking ourselves into a sense of almost terminal gloom."

Anatole Kaletsky, page 10
BP loss, page 15
Moment of truth, page 19

TODAY IN THE TIMES

Record fall for Bush

President Bush's approval rating in opinion polls has dropped from a record 90 per cent just after the Gulf war to 33 — the biggest fall for a sitting president since polls began. Only Harry Truman, Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter achieved ratings below 30 per cent, and none kept the White House. Page 8

Sea arrest

A former army officer wanted for the murder of his parents was arrested on a yacht off Gibraltar by Jersey police with the help of the Royal Navy. Roderick Newall later appeared in court on the rock for the start of extradition proceedings. Page 3

Wasim strikes

England collapsed to 207 all out in the fifth Test against Pakistan at the Oval after Wasim Akram took five wickets for seven runs in 23 balls after tea, finishing with figures of six for 67. Pages 26, 28

Homes ruling

Homeless children have no right to apply for council housing in their own right if their parents have been declared intentionally homeless, the Court of Appeal ruled. Page 6

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Briton escapes ban after Olympic drug test

FROM JOHN GOODBODY IN BARCELONA

A BRITISH competitor at the Olympic Games has been found positive in a drugs test but Olympic officials, who interviewed the unnamed competitor, have decided to take no action because it was a minor infringement.

Dick Palmer and Caroline Searle, two officials of the British Olympic Association, attended a hearing of the medical commission of the International Olympic Committee. However, both declined to confirm the adverse finding of the commission and to identify the competitor.

There have been three positive drugs tests resulting in disqualification at these Games, the most recent being the American hammer thrower Jud Logan, who tested positive for clenbuterol. The medical commission

has also interviewed competitors who have inadvertently taken medicines containing substances that appear on the banned list.

At the 1988 Olympics, three British sportsmen were called before the medical commission and cleared of any suspicion. They were Linford Christie, the silver medal winner in the 100 metres in 1988, and champion here, who took some pseudoephedrine in a drink of ginseng tea, and two modern pentathletes, Richard Phelps and Dominic Mahony. These two had taken quantities of a banned substance, possibly in travel pills.

After the Ben Johnson scandal in Seoul, these Games have again been marked by a series of controversies. Apart from the three disqualifications, three other British competitors — Jason Livingston, in athletics, and the weightlifters Andrew Saxton and

Andrew Davies — were sent back from Barcelona because they had been tested positive in out-of-competition tests in the United Kingdom.

In addition, Katrin Krabbe, the world 100 metres and 200 metres champion and her German colleague Grit Breuer have been tested positive in Germany. The pair are not competing here because they said they suffered too much stress in clearing their names after some samples taken in South Africa in January. The urine of the two runners and their colleague, Silke Möller, proved to be from the same person, and manipulation was suggested. However, after an initial suspension, the trio were cleared by the International Amateur Athletic Federation on a technicality.

Krabbe has now admitted taking clenbuterol, known as "doper's delight" because it is both a stimulant and an anabolic agent. It is the same

drug which was found in the urine of the two British weightlifters and also in the specimen of Jed Logan, fourth in the hammer throw here. The American, winner of the pan-American title in 1987, was formally disqualified from the Games by the IOC yesterday.

On the track, Britain took another bronze medal when Kriss Akabusi, the European champion, set a UK record of 47.82 seconds in finishing third in the 400 metre hurdles. The race was won by Kevin Young of the United States in a world record of 46.78 seconds, despite the American knocking down the final hurdle. This erased the world mark of 47.02 seconds set by Ed Moses, twice Olympic champion.

Meaty endeavours, page 3
Simon Barnes, page 14
Olympic reports, pages 26-28

Chapter Three The BLAZER SALE...



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Murder hunt: police searching woodland in the Mendip hills, Somerset, where the remains of a young woman were found on Wednesday. Avon and Somerset

police. London detectives and a pathologist were working last night to establish whether the body could be that of Suzy Lamplugh, the London estate

agent who vanished in July 1986 after going to view a house with a Mr Kipper (Stewart Tandler writes). The key may lie in dental records held by Scotland Yard.

Police in London said that the age of the body, thought to be at least seven years old, and details of clothing, suggested that it might not be Suzy Lamplugh. A

spokesman for Avon and Somerset police said last night that they had found no evidence so far to connect the body with the Lamplugh enquiry.

Abbey imposes tight control on solicitors

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

IN AN effort to halt widespread fraud, Abbey National is requiring all solicitors who handle mortgages to agree to stringent conditions that give the bank rights to go to solicitors' offices to inspect files and monitor their work. Solicitors will be required to check a borrower's identity.

The conditions are being introduced in September and any solicitor or licensed conveyancer who does not agree

to them will be struck off Abbey National's panel. The Halifax Building Society is considering imposing a levy or fee on solicitors on its panel as well as more rigorous standards and checks on lawyers who join or remain on it. This move coincides with Law Society moves to limit the amount of compensation paid to leading financial institutions in cases of default. The lenders deny that their

new controls are a tit-for-tat move.

Lenders are under increasing pressure to act to curb mortgage fraud. The extent of this fraud is behind the recent announcement that solicitor-partners must pay a £1,000 levy to top up the Law Society's compensation fund by £30 million.

Patrick Stevens, a solicitor in Wales, said he was outraged by the extent of the requirements. "This is very much the thin end of the wedge. The big lending institutions should not be allowed to use their economic muscle to make requirements which are unreasonable and grossly excessive," he said.

"One stipulation is that solicitors at all times observe and comply with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1984. In other words, the society is insisting that we comply with the law, which is pretty insulting."

Clients, he added, would not be very happy at the prospect of the local building society manager "rifling through the files where he might see personal information not directly relevant to the mortgage transaction."

The result of the new conditions, he added, would be that solicitors would tend not to refer clients seeking a mortgage to the Abbey National.

Anatole Kaletsky, page 10
Letter, page 11

Lawyers jailed for mortgage fraud

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

FOUR solicitors were among 10 men jailed yesterday by Liverpool Crown Court for mortgage fraud in the latest successful investigation into a fraud that took millions from mortgage lenders in the boom years of the 1980s.

The men, who operated in the Greater Manchester area, will join a growing number caught in recent years by an increasing police effort. The Manchester group was responsible for a £1.8 million fraud on building societies and banks. Although the operation involved 90 properties and 128 applications, the scheme was relatively small. Officers from several forces and the Serious Fraud Office

are investigating more than 1,000 cases involving over £500 million.

One case, reported to be the largest yet, involves 200 to 300 properties including homes, public houses and commercial property in London. The loss, which involves a solicitor's firm, could be as high as £100 million.

Investigators believe the frauds began as property prices shot up in the past decade and lenders began a fierce competition for business. There were fewer checks because of the demand and the fraudsters moved in often with the help of professionals such as lawyers, surveyors and accountants.

Hurd aims to trim EC laws

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS Hurd, the foreign secretary, yesterday sought to win over critics of his stance on Europe by asking all government departments to search for superfluous EC laws that should be sent to the "knacker's yard".

He has written to cabinet colleagues asking them to draw a list by October of EC laws that interfere unnecessarily with British sovereignty. The result of the trawl will not be published initially, but discussed with the European Commission and other member countries to see whether the laws should be repealed.

British officials believe that the most likely candidates will be laws affecting animal welfare, food hygiene, the environment, workers' protection and the benefits system, because of Britain's different traditions and, in most cases, higher standards.

The target is understood to be headline-making EC directives governing the content of the British sausage or the labelling of cheese. However, Mr Hurd has made it clear that ministers must not list laws they merely dislike.

Procedures will also be introduced by the Commission next month to weed out proposals that interfere in the nooks and crannies of national life.

With the prospect of a rough ride at the Tory conference in October, Mr Hurd yesterday made an unprecedented attack on EC bureaucrats in a speech to the Banff and Buchan Conservative association, saying that excessive zeal by Brussels could do for Europe what the Spanish Inquisition did for religion. Praising the Maastricht treaty, he dubbed Euro-septics "surly laggards".

By LUCY ROCK
RECORD numbers of tourists visited France last year, making it the most popular holiday destination in the world, a position it seems likely to keep this year.

Last year France topped the international tourist league table with nearly 56 million visitors, against 36 million in 1986. The UK came seventh with 16.8 million, according to the World Tourism Organisation.

TAT European Airlines has limited space on all flights this weekend between Gatwick and Paris, but there is plenty of space on Gatwick-Lyon flights. Air France has limited availability on each

Police planes join hunt for travellers

Farmers, police and landowners are using new methods to stop an illegal festival taking place. Louise Hidalgo reports

POLICE, farmers and landowners braced themselves yesterday as New Age travellers began to move towards Hampshire where the illegal Torpedo Town festival is expected to take place this weekend. Police aircraft have been flying across the county twice a day, roving patrols have been scouring minor roads ready to set up roadblocks and anti-vehicle ditches have been dug.

Farmers have received instructions from the National Farmers' Union on how to deal with travellers. Tips include spreading farmland with slurry, blocking gateways with manure, and never using firearms.

Chief Insp Peter Neyroud of Hampshire police, who is involved in co-ordinating the effort to stop the travellers, is determined the festival will not take place. "In the game of cat and mouse, I have every intention of playing cat," he said.

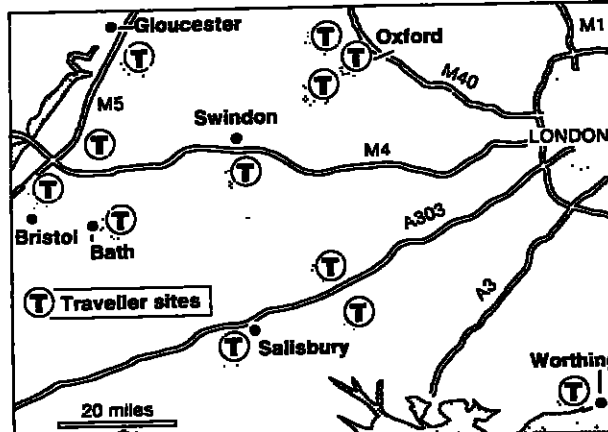
All police leave has been cancelled and roadblocks have been set up across a 25-mile area around Bramshot Common, near Liphook, and along the A3. Local landowners, which include the defence ministry, the National Trust

and many smallholders, have used logs, skips and tractors to block access to open land.

Every day police aircraft from Hampshire, East Sussex and Surrey have been surveying the region for signs of travellers amassing. The defence ministry is helping to man the police operation and there is constant liaison with neighbouring forces.

Injunctions have been issued, and notices under the Public Order act served against people believed to be involved in organising the event. So far only a few convoys of buses and caravans have been spotted trundling through the Hampshire backroads towards Bramshot Common, which is owned by the defence ministry and is now protected around its 500 acres by an anti-vehicle ditch. All convoys have been turned back by police, as have the stragglers who arrived on foot.

Martin Bailey, who publishes a newsletter on free festivals, confirmed yesterday that travellers were likely to seek to stage this year's event again at Bramshot Common. "If it is blocked off, they will probably try to find a new site," he said.



STOP PRESS FRANCE - WITH THE TIMES AND LBC

Each week throughout the summer The Times and LBC will bring you news of last-minute bargains available for travellers to France, the latest information on bookings, flights, traffic problems and holiday ideas



LBC NEWS TALK 97.3

Heathrow-Paris flight with 12 flights today and ten on Saturday any passengers who have not yet booked should get a seat.

Air UK has plenty of space on its flights from Stansted and Leeds/Bradford to Paris and from Stansted to Nice over the weekend.

Seacat and Hovercraft Dover-Calais crossings have limited car space in the mornings. There is space for cars and foot passengers on Seacat and Hovercraft crossings on Monday. P&O European Ferries has space available on this weekend's sailings to Calais and Boulogne from Dover and to Le

Have and Cherbourg from Portsmouth.

RAIL

Motorail has space on trains from Boulogne to Brive and Narbonne this weekend. There is also space on the Boulogne-Toulouse train on Saturday. Boulogne-Fréjus/St Raphael on Sunday, and Boulogne-Avignon today and Sunday.

OFFERS

Airours are offering self-drive camping holidays in France for £299 for seven days or £499 for 14 days. That covers up to six people sharing a tent and includes return Ramsgate-Dunkerque crossing.

RATES

The franc has strengthened against the pound over the past week. Travelers advise that exchange rates for the franc are between 10.03 and 10.06 when selling and 9.18 and 9.21 when buying.

Robin Young, the Times journalist and wine enthusiast, will be interviewed by Angela Rippon on her Drivetime programme next Thursday, August 13, at 6.50pm on LBC Newstalk.

Passport to France, L&T section, page 4

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three wounded in village gunfight

A policeman and a passerby were injured yesterday when a gunman taking part in a robbery ran through a village firing as he was chased by police. Shoppers in Brockham, near Dorking, Surrey, took cover behind cars and a telephone box as police marksmen returned fire. One man was caught in the crossfire and was hit in the ankle. A police officer was stabbed in the chest and the gunman was shot in his side.

No complaint has been made, but Surrey Constabulary has voluntarily referred the incident to the Police Complaints Authority, which will examine how the incident was handled. It began when detectives, acting on a tip-off, lay in wait for a gang of armed robbers at the village sub-post office. The men, who had been followed from London by police, apparently opened fire when they were challenged.

The wounded, including the gunman, were taken to the Royal East Surrey Hospital at Redhill. Four men have been arrested in connection with the unsuccessful robbery — three in the village and the fourth after a ten-mile chase along the M25.

Kidnap case adjourned

A court yesterday further adjourned the case against Robert Black, 44, who is accused of kidnapping and murdering three young girls during the 1980s. Mr Black is next due to appear before Newcastle upon Tyne magistrates on November 6, when it is possible that criminal proceedings will take place. Mr Black, who is in custody, did not appear during the brief hearing but his solicitor accepted the move in a letter read out in court. Mr Black is accused of the kidnap and murder of Susan Maxwell in July and August 1982, the unlawful imprisonment and murder of Caroline Hogg in July 1983, the kidnap and murder of Sarah Harper in March and April 1986 and the kidnap of Teresa Thornhill in April 1988.

Sadler's Wells saved

Sadler's Wells Theatre, due to close later this month with a deficit of £575,000, has been rescued by emergency grants of £280,000. The package, which guarantees the rest of the theatre's financial year, has been co-ordinated by the London Arts Board's chairman, Clive Priestley, and is made up of £100,000 from the board, £150,000 from the Arts Council and £15,000 each from the London Boroughs Grants Unit and Islington council. The rescue means that planned autumn performances by Glyndebourne Touring Opera, London Contemporary Dance, Phoenix Dance and London City Ballet will go ahead. Other companies whose bookings are now saved include St Petersburg Ballet Theatre and the Ballet Teatro Espanol, whose appearance is part of the European Arts Festival.

Jani Allan sells story

Jani Allan, who faces a £300,000 bill for legal costs after losing her libel action against Channel 4, has sold her story to a Sunday newspaper for an undisclosed sum, a spokesman for her solicitor, Peter Carter-Ruck, said yesterday. Miss Allan, who lives in a rented house at Hampton Court, Surrey, has won out-of-court libel settlements, totalling about £40,000, from the London Evening Standard and Options magazine.

Priest jailed

A homosexual priest who molested a 12-year-old boy at a Roman Catholic boarding school was jailed for nine months yesterday. Father Michael Creagh, 56, former deputy house master at Douai Abbey School in Berkshire, pleaded guilty at Reading Crown Court to three counts of indecent assault over a nine-month period. Sentencing Creagh, Judge Stanley Spence told him: "You were a member of a religious community and in a position of trust — in loco parentis for that child. What is particularly reprehensible is that the child sought counselling when he came to you about signs of puberty. It was a double betrayal of trust." After the case detectives from Reading Family Protection Unit alleged that the school, run by Benedictine monks, had hindered the investigation.

Five share chess lead

Five players share the lead in the British Chess Championship in Plymouth with three and a half points after the fourth round yesterday. They are Julian Hodgson, Jonathan Mestel, Mark Hebden, Andrew Martin and Michael Basman. Hodgson, the reigning champion, from London, drew his game against Mestel, of Cambridge, the three-times former champion. Hodgson played a king's pawn opening but a premature advance of his king's side pawns left him in a poor position. However, at that point, Mestel played poorly, letting Hodgson exchange pieces into an end game in which a draw ensued. Players lower down the table took this opportunity to catch up with the leaders. Martin (Hounslow), beat Aly Mortazavi (London), and Hebden (Leicester) beat Philip Rossiter.

TV show 'insensitive'

Thats Life, the consumer show presented by Esther Rantzen, left, has been criticised by the Broadcasting Standards Council for an "insensitive" item about blind people. The programme, highlighting the difficulty of reaching phone boxes on a roundabout, showed a presenter in dark glasses and carrying a stick falling over a wall as he tried to reach the kiosk. The BBC said viewers knew that the humour was not aimed at the blind but apologised for any offence caused.

Death sentence appeal

Lawyers for Tony Teare, 22, a Manxman sentenced to be hanged for murder, have lodged an appeal against his sentence. An apprentice from Ramsey, he was found guilty last month of slitting a young woman's throat and leaving her to bleed to death. The Isle of Man is the last of the Crown dependencies where the death penalty is mandatory for murder. If the sentence is upheld by the appeal court, Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, will recommend the Queen to commute the sentence to life imprisonment. Tynwald, the Isle of Man's parliament, has sent the Home Office a draft bill to abolish the death penalty. The penalty for murder was abolished in Britain in 1965 and in Jersey and Guernsey in 1986. The last execution on the Isle of Man was in 1872.

Train couple fined

A couple who had intercourse in a packed train attracted the disapproval of their fellow passengers only when they lit up afterwards — in the no-smoking second-class carriage. John Henderson, 29, and Zoe D'Arcy, 19, worked at a Sainsbury warehouse in West Ealing, west London, and had been on a bank holiday works outing to Margate, Horseferry Road magistrates were told. Nazir Afzal, for the prosecution, said: "In due course, they finished and lit up a cigarette each. It was only on their action in lighting up the cigarettes that the witnesses complained." Henderson, of Farnham, southwest London, and D'Arcy, of Hanwell, northwest London, pleaded guilty to committing an indecent act on May 25. They also admitted smoking in a no-smoking carriage. They were each fined £50 and ordered to pay £25 costs.

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Ships join international police operation to track down son wanted over the killing of his missing parents

Murder suspect is arrested at sea as navy stops yacht

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A FORMER army officer wanted for the murder of his parents appeared in a Gibraltar court yesterday after being arrested at sea with the help of the Royal Navy.

Roderick Newall was on the yacht *Austral Soma* when it was stopped on Wednesday afternoon, 150 miles southwest of Gibraltar in international waters after a 48-hour surveillance operation by a naval frigate HMS *Argonaut* and the patrol craft HMS *Ranger*. Mr Newall, dressed in shorts and a T-shirt, rowed himself over to the *Argonaut* and was arrested by police from Jersey and Gibraltar.

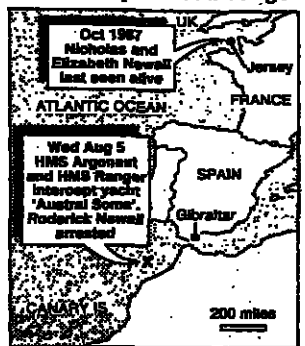
Mr Newall, 27, appeared at Gibraltar Magistrates Court facing extradition proceedings in connection with the murder of Nicholas and Elizabeth Newall in Jersey in 1987.

He spoke only once during the brief hearing when he said: "I was arrested by Jersey officials at high sea and brought back at gunpoint." Felix Pizzarello, the magistrate, remanded him in custody for one week while Jersey police prepare a case for his extradition.

The arrest of Mr Newall, a

former lieutenant in The Royal Green Jackets, followed the issue of a warrant by the Jersey authorities on July 17. Interpol, the Metropolitan Police and English provincial forces were alerted and a media blackout was imposed. Last weekend Det Insp James Adamson and Det Sgt Charles Macdonald, of Jersey, travelled to Gibraltar to seek the help of the local police. Jersey's Lieutenant Governor asked the Home Office and defence ministry for the navy's help.

The yacht was spotted en route for the Canary Islands and was stopped. It was later taken by crew members from the *Argonaut* to Gibraltar, where it will be searched. Bob Stevens, captain of the *Argo-*

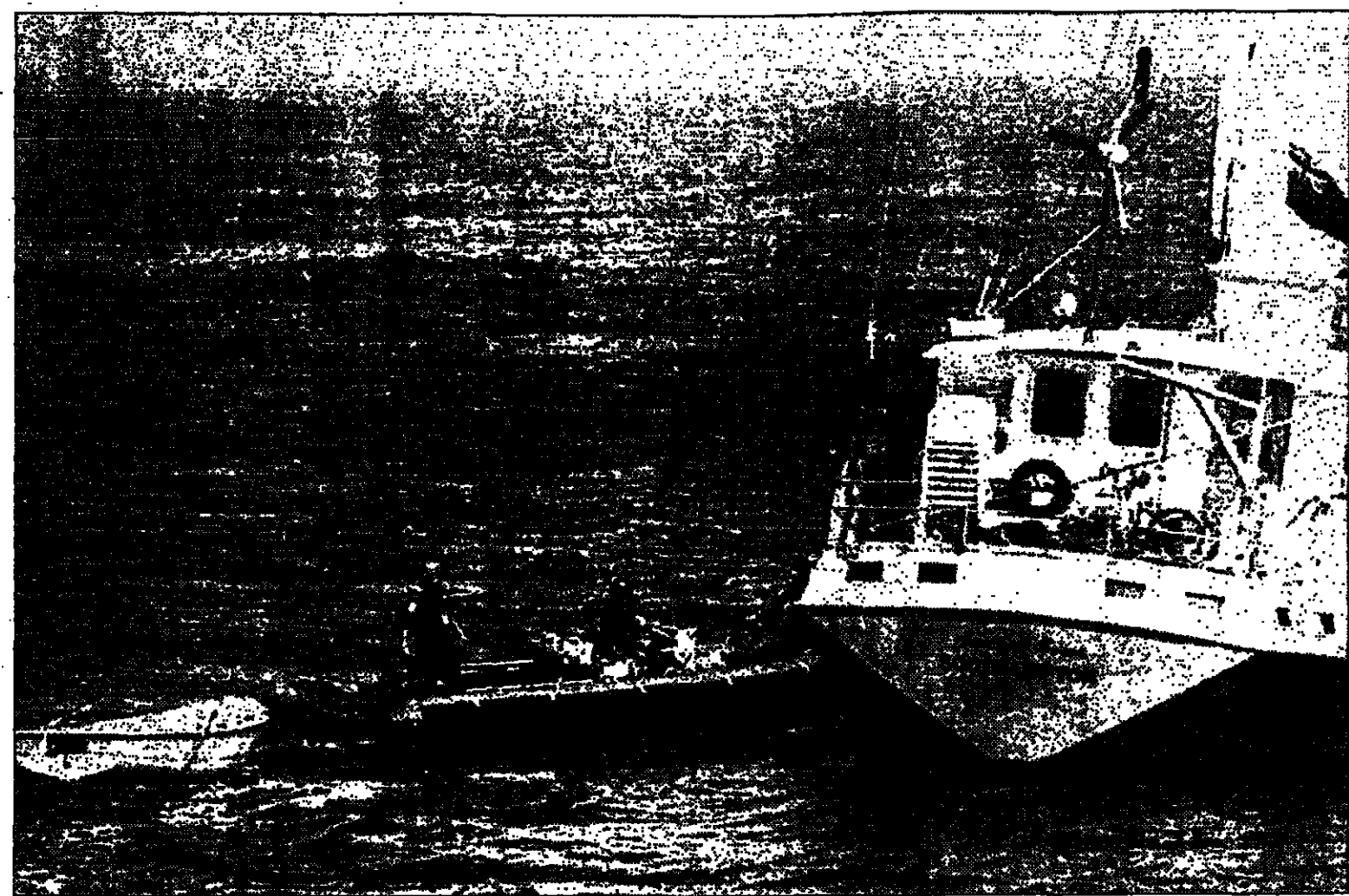


naut, said: "The operation was only made possible by close co-operation and planning between the Royal Navy and police forces of Gibraltar and Jersey. It was an unusual task for us but we were glad to be of help."

Nicholas Newall, 57, a Lloyd's underwriter, and his wife Elizabeth were last seen alive in October 1987 when they were taken for a meal at the Sea Crest Hotel, St Helier, Jersey, by their sons Mark, then 21, and Roderick, then 22. The dinner was to celebrate Mrs Newall's 48th birthday.

One week later, after friends became anxious when the couple missed appointments, a neighbour raised the alarm. Inside the couple's £200,000 bungalow at Clos de l'Atlantique, St Helier, the central heating was on, the rear doors were open, milk was on the table and nothing of value was missing. Their car and passport were still in the house. Their bodies have never been found.

In March 1988, traces of blood were found in the Newalls' bedroom. Almost three years later, in 1991, the Jersey Royal Court declared



Boarding party: a patrol from HMS Argonaut preparing to board the *Austral Soma* to sail it to Gibraltar, where it will be searched

them missing presumed dead after "an incident of sustained violence". David Northcott, a forensic scientist, said that Mr Newall had apparently been killed in front of the fireplace in the lounge and his wife died in the master bedroom. The

couple were retired teachers who left Scotland in 1967 to sail to the West Indies. They stopped in Jersey and decided to settle there.

They also had a villa near Alicante in Spain and a 34ft yacht. A few years before their disappearance their fi-

nances, acquired from inheritances, hit trouble, but they received a gift of £500,000 from an elderly uncle of Mr Newall. He lived on the neighbouring Channel Island of Sark but died after the couple vanished. Roderick and Mark Newall inher-

ited an estimated £500,000 last year after winning an application at Jersey's Royal Court in St Helier to have their parents presumed dead. It is understood that police want to question Mark Newall, a City of London financier. Two months ago,

John Nettles, the actor who plays the Jersey detective Bergerac on television, said that he was investigating the deaths. He said that he had assembled a large file on the case, which he is to feature in a book he is writing about Jersey.

Solicitor failed to spot theft

BY LIN JENKINS

PADDY Ashdown's solicitor discovered that a memorandum giving details of a sexual relationship between the Liberal Democrat leader and his former secretary had been stolen only when the woman, Patricia Howard, was besieged at her house by *News of the World* reporters, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Andrew Phillips said he wrote the note after a meeting in 1990 with Mr Ashdown to discuss the affair. He went to great lengths to ensure that no-one else would see it.

Simon Berkowitz, 45, a painter and decorator of Hove, East Sussex, denies stealing the document and £233.63 in January this year from the offices of City solicitors Bates, Wells and Braithwaite. He also denies handling the stolen document.

A police interview with Mr Berkowitz was re-enacted for the jury, with David Bates, for the prosecution, taking the role of the accused. In it Mr Berkowitz denied responsibility for the break-in and said he was handed the document in a pub. He described a man wearing a distinctive striped jumper, to whom he had promised to "give a drink" should the document lead to anything.

The case continues today.

Meat may beef up athletic endeavour

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

SPORTSMEN and women who supplement their diet with a substance found naturally in meat may be able to improve their performance, research indicates.

Scientists in Britain, Estonia and with the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, have been testing a theory that users of creatine have greater reserves of energy during exercise.

Roger Harris, a physiologist at the Animal Health Trust in Newmarket, Suffolk, said there was evidence that creatine and its phosphate derivative worked in a variety of ways. One was to act as a reserve to the muscle's primary energy source, adenosine triphosphate.

Findings to be published soon by scientists at the institute and researchers at Nottingham University show that people given the supplement got less tired during constant pedalling. Other evidence has come from Tartu University, Estonia, where a member of the institute's team has tested creatine on athletes. The findings indicate that competitors in 1,000-metre and 400-metre events can achieve a "statistically significant" increase in speed.

Dr Harris said a "team" at the University of London was also carrying out studies, and that the research had implications for the elderly as well as for athletes. The studies

follow research into carbohydrate loading pioneered in the 1960s by the Karolinska Institute's professor Eric Hultman. Results, to be published soon in the journal *Clinical Science*, show that a daily dose of 20 to 30g of creatine, extracted from meat and mixed with water as a drink, could boost naturally occurring levels in a person's muscles by up to 50 per cent.

Some British athletes, including Linford Christie and Colin Jackson, are already taking "lower" doses of creatine, made by a firm in Humberside which has confirmation from the International Amateur Athletics Federation in London that the substance is not banned.

Dr Harris said: "This will not turn an average man into a supreme athlete. It is just a small part of the overall training, covering designs of shoes to carbohydrates. You cannot ascribe a win to any single factor." He said that instead of taking supplements it might be possible to boost levels of creatine just by eating the kind of meat-rich diets said to be popular among weightlifters and shotputters, although one unwelcome consequence for runners might be a huge frame.

Olympic sketch, page 1
L & T section, page 5
Sport, pages 24-28

Minister will force BBC to promote its competitors

THE BBC will be forced to promote rival magazines when it uses television airtime to advertise its own titles. Any on-air promotion for the BBC's *Radio Times* will now have to include mentions of *TV Times*, *TV Quick*, *What's On TV* and all other TV listings supplements in newspapers.

Whenever the BBC mentions *Gardener's World* it will also have to rattle off at least 20 competing titles, ranging from *Practical Gardener* and *Garden News* to *The Gardener* and *Flowers At Home*.

The unexpected sanction is part of tough new restrictions imposed by the government yesterday following a Monopolies and Mergers Commission enquiry into cross-media promotion.

Neil Hamilton, the corporate affairs minister, said the commission had proposed sanctions that were too lenient when it ruled that the BBC's use of free airtime to promote its magazines gave it an unfair advantage over rival publishers.

"Important additional safeguards" were needed to prevent future distortion of the market.

Mr Hamilton was one of two Tory MPs who sued the BBC for libel over *Maggie's*

Whenever the BBC advertises a product, it will have to list all its rivals, Melinda Wittstock writes

Militant Tendency, the controversial 1984 *Panorama* programme which alleged that the Tory party had been infiltrated by extreme right-wingers. The BBC eventually settled out of court with Mr Hamilton and Gerald Howarth, the other MP.

Yesterday Mr Hamilton also rejected an MMC proposal to create a joint code of practice between the BBC and the Independent Television Commission covering cross-media promotion. The code, currently under discussion, was to cover trailers and in-programme mentions to the satisfaction of Sir Bryan Carsberg, director-general of the Office of Fair Trading. "I am not convinced that a code of practice would be an effective sanction," Mr Hamilton said.

Sir Bryan has been instructed by Mr Hamilton to begin negotiations with the BBC to "secure undertakings" that will ensure com-

pliance with yesterday's sanctions within three months.

The BBC said it would "explain its concern with the suggestion that the BBC should promote non-BBC magazines on its channels" when it met Sir Bryan. But a spokesman said the corporation did not yet know how much room for manoeuvre it had in fighting off Mr Hamilton's sanctions.

"We hope to preserve the important principle of being able to provide our viewers with information about magazines and other materials which extend their enjoyment of BBC programmes," he said.

The BBC was told by the Home Office more than a year ago that it must raise £72 million a year from the commercial exploitation of its assets.

New arrangements for the commissioning of ITV programmes have worried the Office of Fair Trading. A provision that prevents ITV's chief executive from commissioning a programme without first getting the approval of an ITV company might impede independent producers' access to the £500 million-a-year ITV schedule, it says.

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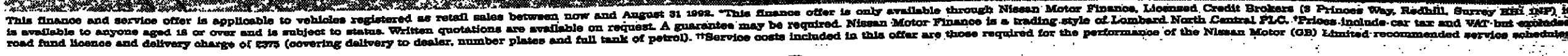
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Sacked NHS doctor 'had a reputation for being disruptive'

BY ALISON ROBERTS

THE hospital consultant who claims that she was sacked for speaking up about nursing shortages had a reputation for being disruptive and malicious, a health service appeal court was told yesterday.

Dr Helen Zeitland, made redundant from Alexandra Hospital in Redditch, near Birmingham, in February 1991, was accused of affecting the "good running of the hospital". She was said to be unpleasant and aggressive, and her behaviour "bordered on the unbalanced".

Colin Smith, regional medical manpower manager, compiled a report after investigating complaints about Dr Zeitland in December 1990. He wrote: "It's clear from each of the persons I have

spoken to that her behaviour is seen as disruptive and malicious." He told the second day of the hearing, in the health department offices in south London: "That's how people I spoke to in the district perceived the situation. It's not intended to be an expression of my views."

The report was condemned on the first day of the hearing by John Hendy QC, acting for Dr Zeitland. He called it a "document of extreme cynicism" that outlined four options for the removal of Dr Zeitland. It recommended that she be suspended pending disciplinary action, but did not mention redundancy.

Mr Hendy claimed that the real motive for the report and for his client's dismissal was

that she had spoken up about shortages of nursing staff.

Dawn Price, chairman of Bromsgrove and Redditch district health authority, said that Dr Zeitland was upsetting staff by drawing attention to the alleged shortages. "I was concerned to hear that nurses were feeling threatened. They felt that they were being spied upon," Mrs Price said. "We had a situation in which the good running of the hospital was being threatened." She said that she had asked for disciplinary action to be taken against Dr Zeitland.

Edward Bailey, counsel for the West Midlands health authority, claimed that Dr Zeitland had been willing to be made redundant if she was given a substantial payoff. "It is quite plain, had the money been paid, we would not be here today," he said.

The committee hearing the case, chaired by Dr Michael Abrams, the deputy chief medical officer, will assess the evidence and advise the health secretary, Virginia Bottomley, on further action. Mr Hendy has asked that the committee's conclusions and Mrs Bottomley's decision be made public.

Leading article, page 11

Nurses afraid to blow the whistle

The prospect of Virginia Bottomley's "gagger's charter" has done little to reassure hospital staff, Alison Roberts reports

IT IS becoming harder for staff to blow the whistle on bad practice or management in hospitals, despite the emphasis on quality in the new free-market health service, according to nurses' representatives. Health secretary Virginia Bottomley's "gagger's charter", to be implemented by the end of the year, has done little to reassure staff about the job prospects of complainants, they say.

The UKCC, the nursing profession's body responsible for standards, recently issued a new code of professional conduct for its members. Nurses should "report to an appropriate person or authority any circumstances in which safe and appropriate care for patients and clients cannot be provided".

Reg Pyne, the UKCC's assistant registrar for standards and ethics, believes that nurses are more likely to complain to colleagues than take up matters with senior managers. This is partly because nurses fear being labelled a "troublemaker" and consequent harassment. Mr Pyne said that nurses still suffered from "distorted traditions". "Some think that good conduct is to be compliant and submissive."

The UKCC will publish a report this month in which quality assurance guidelines are set out for health authority purchasers of care and hospital providers. Mr Pyne said that these would make it

easier for staff to complain when standards were not being met. But he said the new-style NHS required constant supervision from nursing bodies.

Karen Jennings, professional officer for the union Cofese, said many nurses found that the formal complaints procedure began with the hospital line manager. "In a sense to complain direct to the line manager is to cook your own goose," she said.

"Hospitals are very incestuous places and quality assurance guidelines do not take personal dynamics into account. We have had an instance where a nurse found that a doctor was upsetting patients and reported it. She received no support from her colleagues, was moved to another ward, and then left altogether; she is now unemployed. Many nurses are losing their jobs in this way."

The health department will shortly issue details of an administrative body to which the aggrieved nurse may have redress. It promises greater access to channels of complaint culminating in contact with Duncan Nichol, the chief executive of the NHS.

The Royal College of Nursing said that their whistle-blower service had attracted 150 cases within a year; after an initial deluge of letters when the service was first set up, numbers had reduced to a steady trickle which showed no signs of halting.

Spray may help quit smoking

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

NICOTINE nasal sprays may be an effective means of helping smokers to give up, according to a report in this week's issue of *The Lancet*.

In a year-long trial involving smokers attending a clinic at the Maudsley Hospital in London, a quarter of those using the sprays gave up smoking throughout the trial, while only 10 per cent of those on placebo sprays were able to do so. A total of 227 smokers were given four weeks' group therapy to try to help them to give up. In addition, half were given nasal sprays containing nicotine, and the other half sprays containing placebo.

The sprays, which have yet to be licensed for use in Britain, relieved the craving for cigarettes and reduced weight gain in those who managed to give up. □ Spinach and vitamin C tablets can help to prevent cataracts leading to blindness, American researchers have found (Jeremy Lawrence writes). But those who eat carrots or take multivitamin tablets do not enjoy the same level of protection.

A study of 50,000 nurses aged over 45 has shown that those with the highest intakes of vitamin A, mainly found as carotene in fruit and green vegetables and converted to vitamin A in the liver, had a 30-40 per cent reduced risk of developing cataracts. Those who ate spinach five or more times a week halved their risk, according to the study published in *The British Medical Journal*.

Health, L&T section, page 5



It's cool to be hot: Scott Groves, 16, of Ravenscourt Stage School, tucks into a school dinner in a new commercial designed to persuade pupils to leave their sandwiches at home. The caterers who now provide school dinners have devised a "rap" commercial to sell their meals (Joe Joseph writes). Parents will have to decide whether a com-

mercial that persuades their offspring to eat in the school canteen is an adequate trade-off for lyrics that might make English teachers shudder.

The 30-second commercial, called *School Dinners Are Cool*, will hit television screens for a fortnight before the start of next term. It begins:

When they're feeling kinda hungry. And the lesson is complete. Take a slice of advice. School dinners can't be beat. Rap music is the last resort of no-longer-young executives seeking to excite young passions. "Rap's the thing, kids relate to it," said Mike Jones, who organises

West Sussex's school caterers and helped to devise the campaign. The Scout movement also has succumbed to this faddishness. Perhaps scoutmasters and caterers are unaware that where rap music is popular, it is often because the lyrics urge listeners to redress social injustice, rather than to eat their vegetables.

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Squatters put down roots in campaign to reclaim derelict flats

SIX months ago, Johanna Harrison was squatting illegally in an empty, rundown flat above Julian's delicatessen in Wimbledon, southwest London. She is now a legal tenant in the flat, which has been refurbished with government money, a beneficiary of one of the many schemes aimed at reclaiming some of the country's 80,000 empty flats above shops.

Her's is a rare instance of one of Britain's 764,000 empty properties being used to alleviate homelessness. Although the Empty Homes Agency does not condone squatting, Bob Lawrence, an executive from the agency, said: "I find it very sensible that young people, especially vulnerable young people, can have the opportunity to be given keys using a crowbar."

Miss Harrison, a 27-year-old writer, and about 20 other squatters, moved into 12 flats above 11 shops in Wimbledon Broadway and Victoria Crescent in 1988, forcing their way through the skylights.

Some of the flats had been

The homeless find hope in the high street, Rachel Kelly writes in part two of her series on empty properties

empty for ten years and were dilapidated, with broken windows, leaking roofs, rotten floorboards, defunct plumbing and hazardous wiring. The squatters lived in and improved the properties for two years, and then decided to form a housing co-operative affiliated to a housing association to negotiate with the landlord, the insurance company Friends Provident, to legitimise the arrangement.

The squatters formed a housing co-operative called Skylight, and affiliated themselves to the South London Family Housing Association. Friends Provident agreed to let the flats on a short-term lease to the housing association, which has handed the day-to-day management of the flats to Skylight. The association obtained a £102,000 Housing Association grant to carry out necessary repairs to the flats, and now Skylight

hopes to provide permanent housing for 50 young people.

"The use of empty residential accommodation, particularly over shops, can help to redress the acute shortage of housing," Miss Harrison said. "Skylight has been established to resolve these problems in the borough of Merton, and to encourage other private owners to enter similar agreements."

Miss Harrison and her fellow squatters were fortunate to be negotiating with Friends Provident, which proved enlightened. "Friends Provident were fantastic to agree to the scheme," Miss Harrison said. As young single people, the squatters would not have been seen as priority housing cases by councils or housing associations, but were suitable in the case because they did a lot of the work repairing the flats.

"This made the scheme very

cheap for Friends Provident, costing them only about £4,000 a flat," said Pam Treanor from the South London Family Housing Association. "Families couldn't have done it."

The environment department sees the case of the Wimbledon flats as an example of what can be done with existing resources. The government's own Flats over Shops scheme invites commercial property owners to look at residential letting as a profitable use of their resources. The government scheme would concentrate on families on housing waiting lists rather than squatters.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' Spare Space initiative aims to reclaim the estimated 80,000 empty flats over shops. More than 80 per cent of the flats over shops in the country are owned by just 80 institutions, which have been cautious of subletting for fear of being unable to get rid of tenants.

Michael Newey, chairman of the Spare Space initiative and the institution's Junior organisation, which is behind



Making space: Skylight, left, and Alison Hayward

the scheme, said: "Before the 1988 Housing Act there were sensible financial reasons for institutions to be wary of allowing their tenants in the shops downstairs to sublet the flat above. The danger was that a permanent tenant who could not be got rid of could have a devastating effect on the property's value."

The introduction of the assured shorthold tenancy, in 1988, allowed flats to be used without risk to the freeholder or long-term inconvenience to



the retailer, Mr Newey said. This means a landlord can get rid of a tenant after six months, if need be.

The art is now to persuade usually cautious landlords that they risk nothing by letting out empty space above shops. Currently such properties would be let on leases which would forbid sleeping and cooking on the premises as well as subletting the upper storeys as a flat. Participating landlords will allow tenants to sublet the flats over their

shops to registered housing associations, thanks to a change in their lease.

"We need to encourage a fundamental shift in attitudes," said Alison Hayward, the first project officer appointed by the institution to liaise with landlords and new tenants.

Such schemes would also breathe life into moribund town centres that are blighted by the empty property above shops. "The environment would be safer and this would bring extra business to local traders," Mr Newey said. "The town centres would become living centres after 5.30."

The Spare Space team has already persuaded a number of property giants including Norwich Union, Legal & General and Grand Metropolitan Estates to examine their property portfolios to find premises suitable for pilot schemes in high street parades to be available for use this autumn. The housing associations would carry out any necessary work and then grant assured shorthold tenancies either to people on their

own waiting lists or to local authority nominees.

Other projects are already underway. Grand Metropolitan Estates is working with Tower Hamlets council to help house the borough's homeless. The council has £109,300 of government money to reclaim 12 one- and two-bedroom flats above shops in Cambridge Heath Road, east London. The remaining £186,000 cost will be met by Grand Met, partly as a capital contribution and partly as deferred income from rent paid by residential tenants.

A second, cheaper, scheme is being considered in Toxteth. The freehold of a shop with a three-bedroom maisonette above is owned by Imperial Investments, which has agreed that Spare Space can negotiate with its tenants, the Searns group, about letting the space above the shop. "It could cost less than £5,000 to bring the maisonette back into use, as it is in very good condition," Mr Newey said. The next step is to involve a housing association or local authority.

Children of mortgage defaulters have no right to be rehoused

By Douglas Broom, Local Government Correspondent

HOMELESS children have no right to apply for council housing in their own right if their parents have been declared intentionally homeless, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday. The decision, in a test case, was greeted with relief by councils throughout England and Wales which are coming under growing pressure from families made homeless by mortgage repossession.

Many of the 35,750 people whose homes were repossessed in the first half of this year were declared intentionally homeless because they had failed to keep up mortgage payments. Although many families with children are helped by councils, local authorities feared they would be overwhelmed if the court had ruled that children could be used to get round housing laws.

Yesterday's case was brought on behalf of two five-year-olds, Moses Bantum of Bexley, southeast London, and Graham Garlick from Oldham, Greater

Manchester. Parents of both of children had been declared intentionally homeless.

Oldham council had said that if the children were to win, the floodgates would be opened and thousands of applications would be made by underserving families, a result which would be "absurd and unreal".

Agreeing, Lords Justices Ralph Gibson and Nolan sitting with Mr Justice Scott upheld a decision by the High Court in April that children could only qualify for emergency housing in their own right if they were separated from their parents.

The court was told that Moses Bantum was the son of political refugees from Ghana who bought their own home at Thamesmead, southeast London. The family got into financial trouble and was unable to keep up mortgage payments.

They had presented themselves as homeless to Bexley council in August 1990. In February last year their three other children and a grandchild arrived from Ghana and were included in the application for housing.

Last September the parents were declared intentionally homeless because the council found there had been "a deliberate omission" to keep up mortgage payments.

Graham Garlick's single-parent mother Sharon, 20, was declared intentionally homeless by Oldham council after she was evicted from a council flat in January last year because she had run up rent arrears of £150. The High Court had been told that she had spent her rent money buying drugs for her boy

friend and the family was living at temporary address.

Lord Justice Nolan said it might seem "very hard" that the disqualification of the parents should be visited on the children. But parents, rather than local councils, should bear responsibility for housing their children.

Mr Justice Scott said that a homeless person being housed by a council was, in law, entering into a contract to rent accommodation. There was no question of a four-year-old child being able to enter into such a contract.

Lord Justice Gibson said the argument that parents could use their children to get round housing laws was "repugnant to commonsense".

Although the appeals were dismissed the judges gave the two boys leave to take their cases to the House of Lords. Mark Hall, the Bantum family's solicitor, said: "We shall definitely go ahead with the appeal subject to us continuing to receive legal aid."

More homes for low-income families are being built in the countryside than in previous years, according to a report published today by the Rural Development Commission and Acre, a rural communities charity (Rachel Kelly writes).

Although the immediate picture is optimistic, in the longer term the potential supply of housing in the pipeline has increased only slightly and is unlikely to meet forecast needs, the report warns.

Lord Shuttleworth, chairman of the commission, said: "Affordable housing must continue to be given a high priority if we do not want to see a population exchange, with the less well-off in rural areas being forced to move away to the towns. The health and vitality of rural communities depends on a mix of people from all walks of life living and working in them."

The report, *Rural social housing supply and trends*, surveys 11 rural districts in England. It shows that there has been an increase of just under 5 per cent in eight districts and discloses that 67 per cent of the new homes will be for rent.

The report also shows that housing associations are now the major developer of affordable rural homes and that there has been a shift towards rented housing.



Early start: Rosie Barnes, the former Social Democrat MP, holding Jessica Birtel, born prematurely at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, west London, two weeks ago. Mrs Barnes takes up her new post as director of the charity Birthright next month.

Ashworth nurses given ultimatum

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Services Correspondent

FIRM action to end the regime of abuse at Ashworth high security psychiatric hospital on Merseyside was promised yesterday by the new manager, who said that staff who were not prepared to change their ways would be sacked.

The tough line taken by Peter Green, the new acting unit general manager, follows a report by a government-appointed committee of enquiry, which revealed inhuman and degrading treatment of patients over many years.

Mr Green, who replaces Brian Johnson, who has been moved to other duties, said: "The time is here when they have to decide whether or not they are nurses. Once they

have made that choice and realise that they are nurses first, they will have a future at Ashworth."

He said that staff were working their way through the report and their reaction had been "stunned silence". Seven nursing staff named in the report have been suspended and charged with gross misconduct on the grounds of negligence. Three have also been charged with assault. The Prison Officers' Association, which represents most nursing staff at the hospital, has called an overtime ban in protest at the earlier dismissal of two staff for taunting patients with a severed pig's head.

Charles Kaye, chief executive of the Special Hospitals Service Authority, said: "We must support education and counselling for the staff, and if we can't change their attitudes then they will go. The Prison Officers' Association has got to adjust itself because it doesn't realise that it is now dealing with a health authority that is thinking in terms of care in hospitals."

He said he would judge the POA by the way it behaved over the next six months. "If they follow industrial action which cuts patients off from essential services then they should be condemned for refusing to learn," he said.

Mr Green, former director of rehabilitation at Ashworth, said: "We have taken the first steps on a thousand-mile journey."

RUC told to speed switch to civilians

By Sheila Gunn, Political Correspondent

THE Royal Ulster Constabulary could save £16 million a year by replacing highly trained police officers with civilians in administrative jobs, the public spending watchdog says today.

The National Audit Office criticises delays in switching to civilians, which could save an estimated £14,400 a year for each post, and also discloses that Civil Service candidates often refuse to work in some police stations in the province.

Official estimates put the savings from switching 374 police jobs to civilians up to last April at £22.1 million. The accumulated savings of the transfer of 561 posts between 1983 and 1995 are put at £44 million. In practice, the auditors say, the savings will be much less because the RUC, the largest police force in the United Kingdom outside London, is not cutting operational posts.

"In effect the savings are being used to defray the costs of additional police officers used on operational duties," the auditors say.

In the early 1970s the RUC started to look for jobs which could be done more cheaply by civilians, the report says. In 1984 it marked down 567 posts by listing certain types of jobs, but it was not until 1989 that a study by the police inspectorate identified 1,110 possible posts for transfer.

The RUC disputed the figure because of the province's unique security problems. Although the Northern Ireland Office recognised that the 12,000-strong police force could not reach the same targets as mainland forces, it said that more jobs could be done by civilians.

The auditors also found "some differences" between the police authority and the RUC on use of the Civil Service Commission for recruitment. Some Civil Service applicants were unwilling to work with the police and there were also misunderstandings about terms and conditions. Some jobs remained unfilled for eight months.

In June the police authority started an enquiry into the 8.4 per cent turnover of civilian staff in the RUC. The audit office estimates the cost of replacing staff last year to be about £300,000.

National Audit Office: civilianisation of police posts in the Royal Ulster Constabulary (Stationery Office, £5.35).

Examiner convicted of fondling

A driving examiner was found guilty yesterday of indecently assaulting four women as they took their tests.

The prosecution had told Oxford Crown Court that Clinton Hadley, 35, of Cedar Barr, Birmingham, regarded the women as "a happy hunting ground" while he was away from his family.

November. He was said to have suggested to one that should remove some of her clothes if she was not wearing stockings or high heels.

Hadley told the court that his conduct had not stopped the mark and denied touching the women indecently. Sentencing was adjourned until today.

Stunts blamed for plane crash

A pilot and passenger died when their micro aircraft crashed before performing aerobatics by the plane's capabilities, the quest was told.

Clive Bluet, 33, the pilot, and Matthew King, 16, died when the plane crashed off West Mersea, Essex. The pilot at Chelmsford returned verdicts of accidental death.

Hunt charges

Alan Hill, 32, a master of the Vale of Aylesbury Hunt, is to be prosecuted by the RSPCA for allegedly mistreating a horse at a meet. His wife, Trelawney, 26, and Gordon Middleton will face the same charges.

Vote enquiry

The Director of Public Prosecutions has ordered a further investigation into allegations of ballot-rigging in the St Ives constituency, Cornwall, during the general election and local elections. It has been claimed that proxy votes were cast for two women who died weeks earlier.

Glider deaths

Verdicts of misadventure were returned at an inquest into the deaths of Anthony Skott, 41, of Uckfield, East Sussex, and Gareth Reason, 33, of Shipthorne, West Sussex, who died when their gliders collided near Lewes in May.

Funfair fall

Scott Matthews, 15, of Basing Island, Hampshire, suffered a collapsed lung and falling 25ft from a fairground ride near his home. He is thought to have slipped under the safety bar.

Baroness freed

Baroness Susan de Stempel, 58, has been freed from Ashham Grange prison, near York, after serving less than two and a half years of a seven-year sentence for swindling an elderly aunt.

Battle halted

Plans for about 3,000 people to re-enact the battle of Edge Hill at Radway, Warwickshire, in October have been called off after police refused to supervise the 350th anniversary event.

Duke puts a stop to church tea

By Tim Jones

ONE of Britain's wealthiest men has stopped parishioners from raising money for charity by telling them they can no longer sell cream teas in the castle on his 80,000-acre estate.

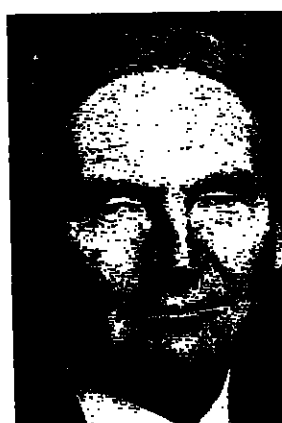
For years the congregation at St Michael's Church, Alnmouth, has regarded the £2,000 they raise during August from visitors at the Duke of Northumberland's estate as a pinnacle of their financial year. Now Henry Alan Walter Richard Percy, the 11th duke, and estimated to be worth £140 million, has set up his own team and told the parishioners they cannot compete with him.

The bachelor duke, who also owns Syon House, which is London's largest private home, has decided that the profits from teas sold to an estimated 70,000 visitors a year must be used for the benefit of the estate.

Rory Wilson, the duke's agent, said: "There is not room for two teams in the same enterprise. The church has run its venture for several years but the castle has never had a tea-room until this year."

"We have offered alternatives. The church could run other fund-raising events in the castle. I think the estate is being more than reasonable."

Christopher Andrews, the vicar, was not available for comment. One parishioner said: "It is a great shame. There is no way that as much money would be raised by the flower festival we now plan to hold in the church."



Nolan: parents must be responsible for children

Company car perk is facing end of the road, pay researcher says

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

THE demise of the company car, that long-cherished icon of corporate status, terror of the overtaking lane, and hate object for the green lobby, may at last be in sight.

More than a dozen of Britain's banks and leading companies are seeking to buy out company car rights from employees, and other firms are poised to follow suit, according to a study by the pay researcher Incomes Data Services. A combination of the recession and the accelerating erosion of the company car's tax advantages has prompted many companies to conclude that providing cars is more trouble than it is worth.

Some firms are also keen to

encourage employees to go green, and switch to smaller cars. However, employees appear to be resisting the withdrawal of their most obvious perk. The findings coincide with the release of figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders showing a renewed fall in car sales.

Showroom sales during July were 33,051, 8.45 per cent below the level of July 1991, the society said. The fall comes after three consecutive months of year-on-year sales increases, which had begun to raise hopes of a market recovery.

Until April, when the Chancellor halved the special car tax, trimming several hundred pounds from the price of a family saloon, car sales in Britain had been falling for 27 consecutive months.

A society spokesman cautioned

against reading too much into July figures. He said that July sales were a notoriously poor guide to trends because many would-be buyers deferred purchases until August, when the registration letter changes.

However, new car sales during the first seven months of the year of 301,796 show a 4 per cent drop on the same months of 1991.

The shift away from company cars signalled by IDS would be likely to increase uncertainty in the market and could delay its recovery, particularly for luxury marques and sporty models, for which buyers face high insurance premiums.

Company buyers account for more than half of car sales in Britain. According to a study by the IDS Top Pay Unit, British employers spend far more on company cars for

employees than rivals in Europe and the United States. "British managers have usually been lower paid than their counterparts overseas, but they have always had better company cars," the study said.

IDS researchers feel sure that the Chancellor will remove the final tax breaks in favour of company cars in the next Budget. They say that an Inland Revenue proposal to tax cars according to price, rather than engine size, will remove the benefit that still exists for drivers of mid-range cars with two-litre engines.

Foreign-owned banks are leaders in the campaign to end company cars. According to the IDS study, 11 financial service companies, all of them overseas-controlled, have moved to get rid of their company cars.

Midland Bank and TSB have also

offered employees cash allowances in lieu of cars, as have BHS, the retailer, the medical equipment group Amersham International, and the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

Two companies, TSB and the Swiss pharmaceutical group Ciba-Geigy, told IDS that they hoped that employees making their own choice of car might adopt greener vehicles.

The sums that companies are prepared to offer employees to give up their car perk varies from £178 for a Ford Escort driver at BHS to £1,025 for top managers at Ciba-Geigy. However, "evidence so far suggests that if they are given a choice, most employees will hang on to a company car," IDS said.

Motoring, L&T section, pages 6, 7

APR 11 1992

South African constitutional talks expected to resume after week of action

ANC will claim strike forced concessions

WHEN Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Congress, and his communist and trade union partners in the tripartite alliance sit down tomorrow to analyse the results of the week of mass action they will no doubt allow themselves some satisfaction.

As the March 17 referendum among the white community showed that President de Klerk had their overwhelming support, so this week has shown that Mr Mandela has the support of blacks. While it is true that the success of a general strike can be ensured by intimidation and those wanting to work can be kept at home by the absence of transport, it is more difficult to intimidate people into turning out for mass marches.

The vast numbers who poured into city centres on Wednesday were testimony to the strength of feeling, as well as to the organising ability of the ANC cadres, who transported thousands of protesters from rural and small urban districts into the big towns. Estimates varied between 200,000 and 400,000.

There were two other impressive things about the mass mobilisation. First that the crowds were well-disciplined by marshals. There were few incidents of violence, or destruction. True, in Pietermaritzburg four cars had their

Pretoria believes the ANC action has not affected its strategy. Michael Hamlyn writes

tyres slashed, and after the demonstrations a couple of petrol bombs were thrown unsuccessfully in Cape Town. But during the Cape Town demonstration marshals handed over to the police a young man caught breaking windows. The same marshals insisted on protesters putting down sticks or anything that might be construed as a weapon.

Second, and equally impressive was the restraint shown by the security forces. Though in many cases police and soldiers were armed with shotguns and rifles, with tear-gas pistols and batons, though they were dressed in bullet-proof vests, steel helmets and gas masks, they stood and watched and jostled the crowd just like policemen in other less socially divided countries. It was possible yesterday to attribute only one death to Wednesday's demonstrations, and that was of a man who fell from a train going home from the Cape Town events.

But having said all that the

question might be: what difference will it make? Despite the brave words of some leaders the government was not going to fall. "If mass action was going to bring down the government it would have been used a long time ago," said Professor Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, academic and politician.

But as *Business Day* pointed out the country has suffered, not only from the deaths caused, and the hundreds of millions of rands of lost production. "The costs include all the 'might have been' investment projects, local and foreign, that will be scrapped or at best delayed until those investors can be assured that the future South Africa will not simply lurch from one crisis to the next."

The government has always said it was ready for talks. Mr de Klerk said it the moment the ANC called them off after the deaths in Bopitang. He reiterated it this week after Mr Mandela stood outside his office in Pretoria and shouted at him from the terraces below the Union buildings.

The cabinet went into rural retreat last week for a *boseraad*, a bush council, and drew up a formula to put to the ANC when it judges the moment right.

According to yesterday's *Sowetan*, the newspaper most read by blacks, the govern-



Stop sign: a Pretoria policeman halting marchers outside government buildings

ment is prepared to abandon a key element of its negotiation package, that the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa) should draft an interim constitution which would act as the basis for the final one. Ismail Gargadien, the *Sowetan's* political editor, said: "It is envisaged that the present constitution could be amended to prepare the country for elections to a constituent assembly as the next stage for the country's transition." *Southern Africa Report*, a weekly newsletter edited by Raymond Louw has a similar impression: "A November

election for a single house constituent assembly where the government would have no veto powers but would demand a 70 per cent majority vote on contentious issues are among the latest 'flexible' proposals to emerge from the cabinet following its secret two-day *boseraad*."

If this is proposed then the government will have gone a long way to answering the ANC's constitutional demands as well, and negotiations could begin again soon. The only question to be settled then is did the government make the concessions because

it was driven by the black mass mobilisation? Or would it have made them long ago if the Codesa process had been allowed to continue? Tomorrow's meeting of the ANC and its allies will claim the former. Government proponents will insist on the latter.

● **Choristers shot:** Two young choristers were killed and 12 others wounded by five gunmen in the Johannesburg township of Alexandra. The singers were getting out of a bus to attend a night vigil for a teenager, who had died of natural causes, when they were gunned down.

PEOPLE

Gorbachev villa given to Ukraine

President Yeltsin has given Ukraine the luxury Crimea villa where the former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was held during last year's failed coup, saying that it was useless and expensive to run. The Ukrainian parliamentary deputy chairman, Vasyl Durdynets, said he was told by Mr Yeltsin: "Do what you like with it. The villa is no good for meetings, no good for receptions and expensive to maintain."

Mr Gorbachev, his wife Raisa, and other members of his family, were held for three days at the whitewashed villa, built especially for them, after a hardline "emergency committee" cut communications on August 18.

Garth Evans, Australia's foreign minister, was forced to abandon plans to speak at Melbourne University when police hustled him to his car to escape demonstrators protesting over possible fee increases.

President Ramos of the Philippines has set aside a "People's Day" at the presidential palace on August 29 to listen personally to Filipinos who want to discuss their complaints.

counted on those elected in the September 27 presidential and general elections to return him to the throne.

The personal bodyguard of Anand Panyarachon, the Thai prime minister, has been strengthened after his decision to transfer leading commanders involved in May's bloody military suppression to inactive positions.

The Chinese dissident writer Wang Ruowang, 73, arrived in San Francisco on his first visit to the United States after three years under house arrest in Shanghai, and said: "I just got out of the cage." He is to teach Chinese literature at Columbia University in New York.

Bevan Meninga, 20, the younger brother of Australian rugby league captain Mal Meninga, has been jailed for life in Brisbane for what a judge described as the "horrific killing" of a woman, aged 19, with a branch three weeks after he was paroled for crimes that included attacking a woman.

The Bulgarian prime minister, Filip Dimitrov, flies to Spain today for a four-day visit during which he intends to meet Bulgaria's exiled King Simeon.

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Armed Somali youngsters cheer arrival of relief team



Kouchner: challenges European ministers

Twenty-four United Nations experts flew to Mogadishu yesterday in preparation for a relief operation to save more than 1.5 million people from starvation and to plan a military operation to restore order in Somalia, which has collapsed into anarchy.

They arrived to the cheers of crowds of teenagers carrying guns and waving immediately to meetings with the local warlords. The team, led by Peter Hansen, a Dane, includes representatives from the Organisation of African Unity and relief agencies. It will have to come to grips with what Bernard Kouchner, the French health and humanitarian action minister, yesterday described as the worst human catastrophe since the Biafran civil war in Nigeria during the late 1960s.

Sam Kiley reports from Nairobi on the complexities confronting the latest United Nations efforts to bring peace and food supplies to Somalia

M Kouchner also challenged other European ministers responsible for humanitarian matters and said that he would be making a "personal appeal to European ministers to set up a lifeline for Somalia".

He said: "I shall be appealing to every mayor of every big town in France to send a shipment of food or medical supplies to Somalia. Something must be done, and done immediately."

Nearly a million Somalis have already been driven to Kenya and 500,000 to Ethiopia. The UN High

Commissioner for Refugees estimates that between 1-2,000 starving Somalis arriving in Kenya every day. Relief agencies that have been in the country for at least six months, like the International Committee of the Red Cross, Save the Children, and the Los Angeles-based International Medical Corps, believe that the number who have died must be "into the hundreds of thousands".

UN officials said that the team would hold talks with the rival warlords to try to persuade them to accept the arrival of foreign troops to

protect relief convoys and aid workers. Since the worst of the fighting broke out last November two foreign relief workers and at least 40 Somalis have been killed.

But the term warlord implies that the major figures hold sway over significant parts of the country. A more accurate description is that they are the heads of disorganised armed gangs, who are fighting in no man's land.

But what happened to Somalia, the only country in Africa with one language and one religion? The only thing that most Somalis agree on is that the seeds of the disaster were sown during the dictatorship of Mohamed Siad Barre, who took power in a bloodless coup nine years after British Somaliland and Italian Southern Somalia merged and were decolonised in 1960. Mr Siad

Barre, who declared that Somalia would be a "scientific socialist" state, ruled through his family — all members of the Marehan sub-clan of the larger Darod group.

Somalia controls the Horn of Africa and therefore access to the Red Sea, so first the former Soviet Union and later the United States backed Mr Siad Barre's regime with weapons. The results can be seen now on the streets of Mogadishu where children with Soviet AK47 rifles only slightly outnumber those with the American M16.

Three main groups united to drive Mr Siad Barre from power in August 1990. In the north the oldest rebel group, the Somali National Movement, led by Abdirahman Ahmed Ali, is dominated by the Issak clan. In the south the Somali Patriotic Movement, under Omar Jesse and

Ogadeni Darod, and the Hawiye-dominated United Somali Congress led both by General Muhammad Farrah Aidid who attacked from within, and Ali Mahdi Muhammad, who led an uprising inside Mogadishu.

Rebel forces swept through Somalia, quickly taking the north and forcing their way to the capital where Mr Siad Barre retreated to a bunker while promising multiparty elections within months. But Mr Ali Mahdi's group, dominated by his Abgal sub-clansmen, drove him out while General Aidid and his Hable Geddis waited on the outskirts of town in late January 1991.

By February 6 Mr Ali Mahdi had established himself as an interim president promising a "broad-based government" while offering General Aidid the chair of the

Somali congress. The mutual fear of domination by another sub-group then gripped all the players, by then servants of their nominal supporters, who recognise no loyalty beyond their families and to whom concepts of democracy and consensus are alien. So by February 10, the patriotic movement and the Somali congress had clashed in Afgoi, 25 miles south of the capital, leaving at least 110 dead.

By November 17 the new civil war was in earnest, leaving 30,000 dead in three months and countless more cut off from the meagre food supplies. Worse, perhaps, came the collapse of the clan structure as elders failed to negotiate a ceasefire. Many have since been killed in random attacks. Now, with virtually no food in the country, only the armed may eat.

Jobless figures add to Republican woes

Bush's poll rating falls to record low

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush has set a new record for the greatest sustained drop in the approval ratings of any American president since polling began and has now reached a level from which none of his predecessors has ever won re-election.

An ABC News/Washington Post poll yesterday gave him an approval rating of just 33 per cent, down five points since last month. By dropping 57 points in 17 months since the Gulf war, Mr Bush has now broken Harry Truman's record fall of 55 points in 15 months just after the second world war.

A separate Gallup poll on Tuesday gave Mr Bush an even lower approval rating of 29 per cent. Only Truman in 1951, Richard Nixon in 1974 and Jimmy Carter in 1979 have recorded ratings below 30 per cent, and none recovered. Truman stood down, Mr Nixon resigned over Watergate, and Mr Carter was defeated by Ronald Reagan.

In another blow to the Republicans, figures were released yesterday showing the biggest weekly jump in a decade in unemployment benefit claims. The 17 per cent surge was partly caused by a General Motors two-week lay-off, but it was nevertheless a further jolt to consumer confidence and undermined a new administration drive to



suggest the economy was not nearly as weak as portrayed. "We've had nothing but talk-down-America stuff all day," Nicholas Brady, the treasury secretary, complained at a congressional hearing on Wednesday.

There seems no end to the bad news for Republicans. Earlier this week, Guy Vander Jagt, the Michigan congressman in charge of all this year's Republican congressional election campaigning, lost his own primary, a victim of what he called a "ferocious tide" of public anger against all incumbent politicians. The same day George Herbert Walker, the president's cousin, lost a Missouri House primary despite distancing himself from Mr Bush.

On the campaign trail, the president has begun to make a virtue of his own weakness, jokingly comparing himself to

Christopher Columbus. He told a New York audience: "Think about it. The guy was faced with questions at home about whether his global efforts were worth a darn. Some critics wanted to cut his voyage short. He even faced the threat of mutiny. And yet Columbus persevered and won. Not a bad analogy in my view." Earlier the comparison was with an American swimmer at the Olympics who had come from behind to win the gold, and before that with President Truman, who in 1947 snatched re-election when all seemed lost by running against a "do-nothing Congress".

Despite everything Mr Bush has for the first time shown an appetite for the campaign this week, confidently taking the battle to Bill Clinton and for the most part silencing those arch-conservatives who spent last weekend demanding he step down.

The emerging strategy is to frighten voters back into the fold by painting Mr Clinton as too risky a choice. Mr Bush has started talking about the need for the president to give a moral lead, thereby reminding voters of Mr Clinton's questionable past, portraying the Arkansas governor as too liberal on issues such as abortion, welfare and education, and suggesting he is too inexperienced in foreign policy to take control of the world's sole superpower. The world playing field had become so competitive it would be foolish "to trust the team to a rookie quarterback", said Mr Bush in Nevada.

Mr Clinton has made a point of replying instantly to each Bush charge, often seeking to turn it against him. He alluded, for example, to his selection of Dan Quayle as vice-president. Mr Bush "used the word 'trust' 29 times the other day", Mr Clinton said in Iowa. "The implication was, of course, that you couldn't trust the other fellow. That's me. Before you get elected they just let you make one decision. My decision was Al Gore. Do you think you can trust me?"

Right protests on eve of Rabin visit

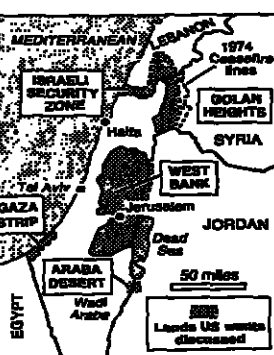
FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S right-wing opposition made a spirited but ultimately doomed attempt yesterday to make a stand against Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, on the eve of his trip to America.

Several hundred ultra-nationalist demonstrators, mainly drawn from the ranks of the militant settler movement, took to the streets of Jerusalem in the first concerted show of force by the right since its setback in the June general election. The protesters appeared to be engaged in a desperate attempt to turn public opinion against the left-wing coalition government, which since its formation last month, has moved quickly to curb Jewish settlements in the occupied territories and inject new life into the forthcoming peace negotiations with Arab delegations on August 24 in Washington.

Ordinarily the right-wing line-up of leaders mustered on King George Street would have attracted public interest. The main opposition Likud party fielded some of its most charismatic figures, such as Ariel Sharon, the maverick former defence minister, and Benjamin Netanyahu, the leading candidate for the future leadership of the party. But with the newly elected government still enjoying a honeymoon period, the tired slogans of Likud's failed election campaign did not make much of an impact on people heading home after work.

Ron Nachman, a Likud Knesset member and the mayor of the Jewish settlement town of Ariel in the West Bank, said: "In Israel, at least half the population does not accept the government's actions. We do not want a Palestinian state established on our land. We are here to show the world that there is another player on the soccer field."



His comments were directed at the government's reform programme. In particular, Mr Rabin has taken immediate steps to halt thousands of new settlement homes in the occupied territories and has promised to begin the transfer of authority in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to their 1.8 million Palestinian inhabitants within a year.

Those actions are expected to lead to a friendly and productive meeting when Mr Rabin meets President Bush at his holiday home in Kennebunkport, Maine, on Monday. Mr Bush is likely finally to grant Israel its request for \$10 billion (£5.2 billion) in loan guarantees. However, Mr Nachman said that Israel could not be treated like the 51st state and that the right wing would acquire the strength to topple Mr Rabin's government. Nevertheless, even traditional Likud supporters predicted it would be some time before the right wing could mount a serious challenge.

"Right now the right's case is useless," said Yossi Olmert, a senior Likud figure who headed the government press office during Yitzhak Shamir's government. "Rabin is still popular while Likud is in bad shape and needs a new leader. This rally was an opening shot, now we must wait for the real salvo."



Hiroshima remembers: an elderly woman praying in front of the monument to the atomic bomb victims of 47 years ago during an anniversary memorial service yesterday. Several hundred anti-nuclear protesters staged a "die-in" as 50,000 people took part in the Japanese city's annual rite of mourning. Takashi Hiraoka, the mayor, reading a peace declaration, recalled the

140,000 victims and urged that all weapons of mass destruction be eliminated. "The problem is limited not only to nuclear weapons, as massive arsenals of biological, chemical and other weapons... have been built up over the years to cast a dark shadow over the future of mankind," he said. Bells tolled and 1,500 white doves were released. (Reuters)

NEW YORK NOTEBOOK by Ben Macintyre

Rampant shoe-baring gives city plenty of kicks

The New York tycoon, Donald Trump, and his girlfriend, Marla Maples, have inadvertently brought to light a new urban trend after Ms Maples's publicist, Chuck Jones, was arrested for allegedly stealing at least 30 pairs of her shoes and hiding them in the air-conditioning ducts of his New York office. Some of the stolen shoes had apparently been altered to accommodate a much larger foot than that of Ms Maples.

Ms Maples, an actress who made her Broadway debut this week in *The Will Rogers Follies*, has a large collection of footwear, but in recent years she had noticed that many of her most prized shoes were disappearing. Mr Jones was allegedly filmed stuffing high heels into a bag after Ms Maples installed a hidden video camera in her bedroom cupboard.

The incident might have been dismissed as just another publicity-seeking ruse by New York's most over-glamorised couple, were it not for the extreme embarrassment all round: neither Mr Trump nor Ms Maples

will talk about the shoe-stealing, and a red-faced Mr Jones, saying "you wouldn't understand", was led away by police.

But the response by New Yorkers to the incident suggests that many not only understand, but share Mr Jones's strange chiroptic interests: a trace of what one might call "freakedism" has swept the city, and foot fetishists are tottering out of the closet in large numbers. One New York club has started a "foot friends" bar night" on Fridays and Saturdays for people who enjoy "all kinds of feet and foot-gear action to meet in a friendly, supportive and social gathering".

New York women, it has emerged, have long suffered the unwanted attentions of foot enthusiasts. The *New York Observer* reports that for the past four years many of the women whose engagement announcements appear in *The New York Times* have subsequently been telephoned by "the foot man", who pretends to be an old school friend but rapidly brings the conversation

around to insteps, nail polish, arches and so on.

Mr Jones spent two nights in jail before being released on \$5,000 (£2,630) bail. He has pleaded innocent, and his trial is due to take place in



Maples: noticed shoes were disappearing

October. It is not yet known what he plans to wear.

A self-confessed serial killer has admitted that he was inspired by the 1985 horror film *Robocop*, adding

weight to the argument that the bloodshed graphically portrayed on America's cinema screens and in other forms of entertainment is directly linked to violent criminal behaviour.

Nathaniel White, 32, from upstate New York, said after his arrest on Tuesday that he had killed six women since March 1991: "The first girl I killed was from a *Robocop* movie," he said "I did exactly what I saw in the movie." In *Robocop* a policeman is transformed into a robot, who then patrols the city to prevent acts of violence which are shown in horrible detail. The rap singer Ice-T last week announced that he was pulling his song *Cop Killer* from his album *Body Count*, after executives at Time Warner, whose subsidiary released the album, had received bomb threats. Police and politicians had condemned the song which they said blatantly encourages the killing of policemen.

The decision did not come before at least one shooting incident was linked to the song. One of four teenagers

arrested after police were shot at in Las Vegas said he wanted to kill a policeman and repeatedly chanted verses from Ice-T's song.

The decision by Ice-T and Time Warner suggests that this round in the war between those who defend and those who would limit artistic licence has been won by the latter, but more such highly lucrative and morally dubious types of "art" are already in the offing. "We've all been put on notice by this," said a scout for Time Warner last week. "But it's not going to stop us."

Following the enthusiastic response to the Elvis Presley postage stamp, there is now talk of depicting the rock'n'roller on US currency as well.

A recent survey has found that more than one in four Americans favour putting a modern figure on a new bill. The most popular choice is John F. Kennedy, who is already on the 50-cent coin. Tied in second place were George Bush, Martin Luther King and Presley.

Peking to embrace market economics

FROM ANDREW QUINN IN PEKING

THE Chinese Communist party will write market economics into its platform at this year's congress, which will also add fresh, pro-reform faces to the party central committee, according to Wu Jinglian, a key staff member at the cabinet's research office.

He said the congress would show that China's efforts to combine socialist planning with market principles were an illusion "that will finally vanish like soap bubbles". In an interview published in the official *China Daily* yesterday, Mr Wu said: "I believe that the market economy will be written into documents of the 14th party congress."

The congress, the first since 1987, is expected to take place in late October or early November. It will mark an important turning point for the world's last big communist party and could put the final seal of approval on the campaign by the senior leader, Deng Xiaoping, for faster economic reforms.

Mr Wu, not himself a central committee member, said there were expectations that the congress would re-vamp the central committee to reflect the pro-reform line. "Such changes will favour the current market-oriented reform," he said.

China's leaders are meeting in conclave before the congress to discuss possible personnel changes, according to foreign diplomats and Chinese observers. Mr Deng's drive to promote faster capitalist-style change, launched during a whirlwind tour of south China's booming "special economic zones" in January, has run into opposition from elderly Marxist ideologues who fear that the party may be straying too far from its communist roots.

In an unwieldy compromise, the government is trying to combine the two positions by saying China should strive for a "socialist market economy" which would preserve some elements of state planning. Mr Wu said this was unrealistic, and would eventually be dropped. (Reuters)

Iraq bars UN from ministries

Baghdad: A new UN arms team, due in Baghdad, will not be allowed to enter any ministry, Iraq ruled yesterday. "We reject categorically visits to the headquarters of ministries because the aim... is to hurt Iraq's sovereignty and independence," Hamad Youssef Hammadi, the information minister, said.

"The inspection teams can visit any place in the country. We want to end this silly chapter as soon as possible," he said, adding that Baghdad had no objection to American members.

The team is led by Nikita Smidovich, a Russian. It will be the first to enter Iraq since the fruitless search of the agriculture ministry last month ended a three-week standoff. The latest Iraqi defiance threatens another showdown with the UN. (Reuters)

Appeal lost

Peking: A court here rejected an appeal by Bao Tong, a former aide to the ousted Communist party leader, Zhao Ziyang, against his conviction for inciting the pro-democracy protests in 1989. He has served three years of a seven-year term. (Reuters)

Poll decision

Beirut: Rashid Solh, the Lebanese prime minister, has turned down a request from Christians that the government postpone the first general elections in 20 years until the Syrians withdraw their troops from Beirut. (Reuters)

Rail record set

Tokyo: The bullet train set a Japanese speed record of 216 mph, maintained for five seconds, during a test, a West Japan Railway Company official said. A French TGV has previously recorded 321 mph and a German intercity express train 250 mph. (AFP)

MPs' powers

Delhi: India's lower house unanimously approved a resolution giving a parliamentary committee sweeping powers to investigate the securities scandal in Bombay in which Indian and foreign banks are thought to have lost at least \$500 billion. (Reuters)

Expenses claim

Sao Paulo: The personal expenses of President Collor de Mello of Brazil since taking office in 1990 exceed £2.6 million, the *Folha de São Paulo* newspaper alleged, citing sources on a parliamentary corruption commission. (AFP)

Name rejected

Kinshasa: The prime minister of Zaire, Nguzu Kar-I-Bond, and his cabinet rejected the proposals of reformers rewriting the country's constitution at a "national conference" to change Zaire's name back to Congo. (AP)

Wreck found

Sydney: An American search team has found the Australian cruiser *Canberra*, sunk off Savo island in one of the most ferocious battles of the Guadalcanal campaign in the Pacific. The find comes just before the campaign's 50th anniversary. (AFP)

Dead weight

Cairo: An Egyptian woman has been detained by police on suspicion of suffocating her 65-year-old landlady by sitting on her during a quarrel, *al-Akhar* reported. The 45-year-old woman, who weighs 18st 12lb, was remanded in custody. (Reuters)

Serbs hasten to hide their horror camps from world

He also reels out a list of places where he alleges Serbs are imprisoned. He names Sarajevo, Zenica, Travnik, Livno and several other places. Selected "invitation only" journalists are now shown presentable camps (or parts of them), while those who are not



Izetbegovic: only a nominal ruler

Izet, the six-year-old son of Azenda, is rewarded with a kiss after he sings a bloodcurdling Serb warsong learnt as a local militiaman taunted those who fled two weeks ago. But Izet is Muslim. "He knows everything," sighs Azenda. Some Muslims did not leave Bosanski Novi because they had to care for elderly or sick relatives. Others say they will hang on until the last in the republic nominally ruled by the regime of President

Queuing to escape: a Muslim refugee family from Prijedor, Bosnia, among 2,000 refugees waiting in Karlovac, Croatia, for room on trains to Germany

These are the hopeful signs put up by Muslims who think that one day they will return. In the meantime have signed what they own over to a Serb friend who has promised to look after it. More realistic are the notices that declare that a property has been "reserved".

As Serbs they had stuck out the war in the Croatian capital but the mother of the family explained: "I didn't feel safe any more, it was because of the Muslims."

Bosnia camps, page 1
Atrocity politics, page 10
Leading article, page 11
Valerie Grove, L&T page 1

NEW

Scared stiff

Bucharest: Romanian police have arrested three youths aged 17 who donned white sheets and posed as ghosts in a cemetery in Sibetul Marmatiei, scaring and robbing passing drunks, a newspaper reported. (Reuters)

Macedonia has denounced as unacceptable the EC's refusal to recognise it under its present name. The parliament and President Gligorov said

However, the EC refusal has denied the impoverished republic of two million people

Greek government to resolve the dispute. Skopje has made it clear that it cannot change its name without unleashing

The original draft of the Senate resolution said that the United Nations should authorise the use of force to ensure the provision of humanitarian aid, gain access to the so-called "death camps", and protect civilians. However, it was being revised yesterday after members of the Senate armed services committee claimed that it amounted to a "blank cheque" that could lead to the deployment of American ground troops, and the final form of the resolution remains uncertain.

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Gender blenders

Nigel Hawkes on why there are only two sexes

Why are there only two sexes? Man and woman created her them, declares the Book of Genesis, and that will be quite enough for some. But biologists prefer explanations that exclude a Creator, and for them this simple question has always been a bit of a puzzle. Imagine the fun that might be had if, instead of two sexes, there were five or six: the infinite variety of couplings, the delicious hierarchy of sexual categories, the kiss-and-tell stories in the Sunday papers. In a world of infinite variety, it seems hardly fair that we should be restricted in our choice of mates to the 50 per cent of the population that happens to be the opposite sex.

Digging through the scientific literature, Laurence Hurst of Oxford University has come across a slime mould that has 13 sexes. While nobody would volunteer to be a slime mould, a primitive species without a rich inner life, it is striking that it should enjoy such sexual abundance, and it threatened to throw Dr Hurst's theories into disarray. For he is who has provided an answer to the question I posed. Dr Hurst and his collaborator in the venture, Dr William Hamilton, belong to the Oxford school of evolutionary biologists who see nature as a war between competing genes.

According to their theory, which has been published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*, the two-sex rule is a way of managing the conflict between parental genes that would otherwise break out. They do not ask why sex should exist at all, since that was answered long ago. The function of sex, biologically speaking, is to provide a source of variation that enables a species to remain adaptable. By mixing and matching genes from their parents, offspring become more than mere carbon copies of them. But this does not tell us why parents in virtually every species are either male or female.

For that, the Oxford biologists say, we must look to what happens in sexual reproduction. When cells from egg and sperm fuse, the genetic material in the cell nuclei comes together. But what becomes of the other genetic material in the cytoplasm of the cell? Mitochondria, for example, the powerhouses of the cell, also have their own DNA, which does not fuse. There is therefore a danger that rival mitochondria could come to blows. In a two-sex system, according to Drs Hurst and Hamilton, this conflict is avoided by males abandoning their right to pass on their mitochondria. All the mitochondria in offspring come from the mother. This avoids conflicts, so long as we choose mates of the opposite sex — as we must if we wish to reproduce.

The clinching evidence came in an obscure paper from Hiroshima University, in which the zoologist Tadao Takahashi described a species of ciliate (a single-celled aquatic microbe) that engages in two different types of sex — fusion sex, when the entire cell is combined, and conjugatory sex, when only the cell nuclei are exchanged. Those engaging in the first form have only two sexes, those using the second have a much wider choice of mates.

This seemed to prove that any species using fusion sex — as human beings do — was bound to come in only two genders. The whole elegant thesis was threatened, however, by the slime mould *Physarum polycephalum*, the organism with 13 sexes. In this species, it turns out, there is a hierarchy which determines which partner shall pass on the cytoplasmic genes, and which shall not. Each sex has to give way to the one above it in the hierarchy.

If slime moulds can do this, why not human beings? Dr Hurst believes that the arrangement employed by the slime mould is highly unstable, because it can easily be disrupted by a mutant sex of mitochondria that rebels against the hierarchy. As it happens, a slime mould in exactly this state of internal conflict has been found and described by another Japanese scientist. To Dr Hurst, that seems more than a coincidence. He says that systems like the slime mould, with its baroque complexity of sexual types, may evolve from time to time but will not last long, collapsing or reverting to simpler two-sex systems. In short, it would seem that having only two sexes is the price we pay for belonging to a stable species able to perpetuate itself for ever. What we lose in variety, we gain in stability.

Help for home-owners is futile while saving is being encouraged, argues Anatole Kaletsky

Splashing out on recovery

In the last two weeks the tabloids have been full of warnings about higher mortgage rates, undermining what little confidence was left in the housing market and the high streets. The immediate threat to mortgage rates has come not from John Major's monetary submission to Germany, but from the Treasury's sheer greed.

By setting excessively high interest rates on National Savings, the Treasury has been sucking money out of the retail savings market on which the building societies depend to fund their mortgages. That is the bad news.

The good news is that two confrontations in two weeks between the building societies and the Treasury have both ended in clear defeats for the Treasury. The rates offered on National Savings have been cut and the threat of higher mortgage rates has receded. If the building societies had really wrested control over Britain's economic policy from Norman Lamont, as some cynical commentators have suggested, this would have been a real cause for celebration.

The reality is somewhat different. The Chancellor did not have to be pressed very hard by the building societies because the huge inflows to National Savings, rising to a net £450 million in July, have been more than sufficient to cover the allotted share of the government's borrowing requirement. Norman Lamont remains all too firmly in command. Yet his concessions on National Savings do suggest a welcome, if belated, willingness to question some of the most damaging orthodoxies of the traditional Treasury view.

First, the government's alacrity in answering the building societies' demands makes clear that home-owners will no longer be treated as the pariahs of economic policy. After spending three years denouncing the house price boom and the allegedly excessive level of home-ownership as the roots of all evil, the Treasury now sees higher house prices as a key economic objective. Even with the election

out of the way, the government will do everything in its power to avoid higher mortgage rates.

Secondly, the Treasury seems to have understood that the structure of British interest rates is no longer determined by the government's borrowing needs or by the balance of savings and investment, but by the European exchange rate mechanism (ERM).

Far from necessitating high interest rates, the public sector borrowing requirement of around £30 billion and the present high level of government spending, would be compatible with mortgage and bank lending rates far below the present 10 to 11 per cent if Britain were outside the ERM.

Conversely, reducing government borrowing or freezing public sector wages would not allow the Treasury to lower interest rates one iota. In fact, in the looking-glass world of the ERM, lower public borrowing could easily undermine demand

and weaken sterling, necessitating higher interest rates, rather than lower ones. It is because of the ERM, not because of the government's high borrowing, that Britain must pay 10 per cent interest rates to foodstore international investors and currency speculators to defend sterling. But interest rates faced by domestic savers and borrowers must be kept as low as possible to promote economic recovery.

This leads to the third offence against Treasury orthodoxy represented by the climbdown on National Savings. Government officials appear to have realised that even in free financial markets, there is some scope for the government to influence the direction of savings and to favour some borrowers at the expense of others.

Governments in other ERM countries overly manage their flows of national savings and investment on a scale that would be unimaginable in free-market Britain. In a small way, the

Treasury may finally be accepting that free-market purity will have to give way to interventionism if the British economy is to survive in the ERM.

The money for National Savings comes entirely from personal savers within Britain. They are not going to exchange their nest eggs for marks, francs or pesetas when sterling interest rates fall. Instead, most will put their money into building societies, helping to keep mortgage rates down.

But by cutting National Savings rates and allowing more money to flow to the building societies, the Treasury might lose up to £400 million of monthly inflows from British retail depositors. This money would have to be borrowed in the gilt-edged market instead. By contrast, the holders of gilt-edged securities, Treasury bills and large money market deposits, are mostly large investment institutions, both from Britain and overseas.

These are the people the government has to satisfy if it wants to keep sterling within the ERM. If the government raised less money through National Savings and borrowed more through the gilt market, gilt-edged interest rates would tend to rise, making sterling more attractive, while the pressure on building societies and mortgage rates would ease.

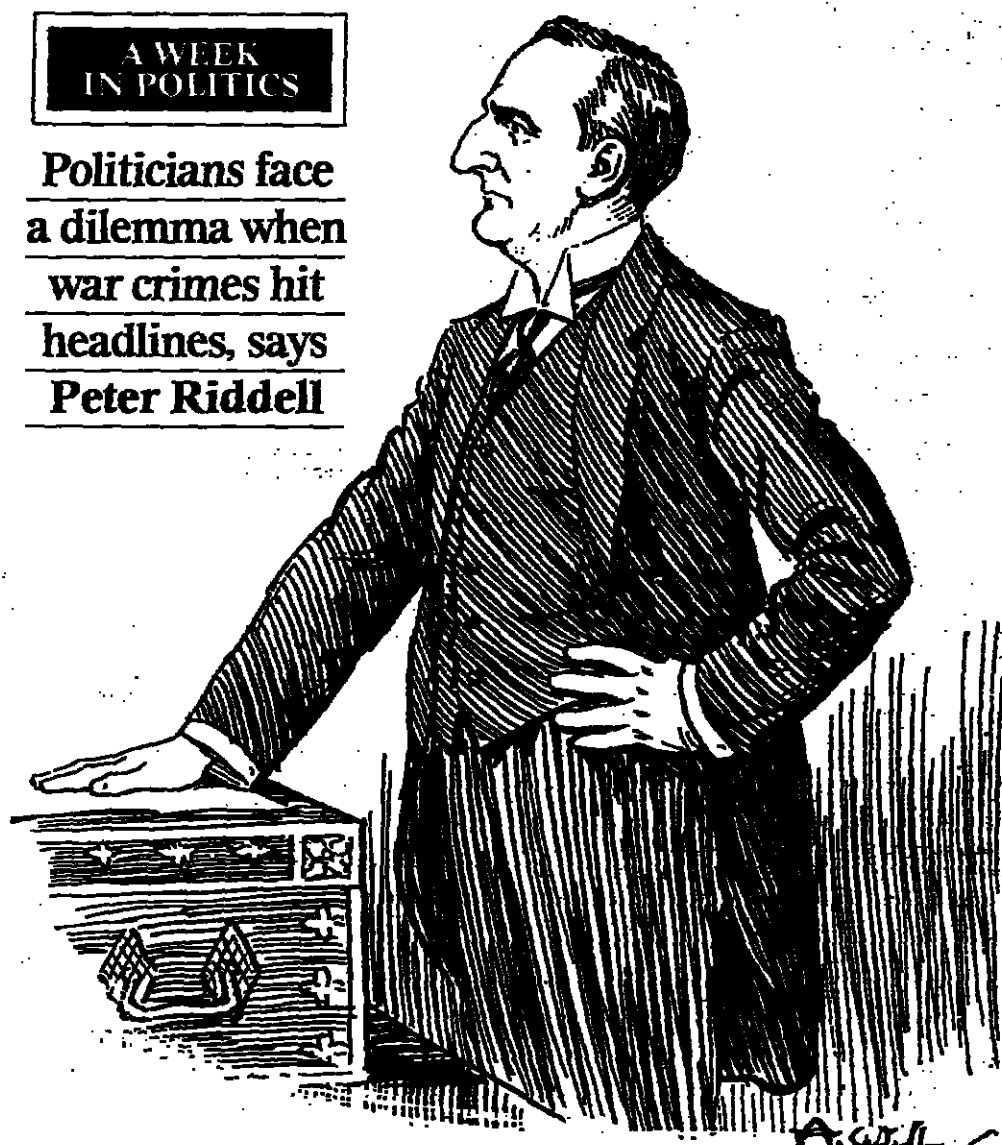
The logical conclusion of such a policy would be to suspend National Savings entirely. Savers who wanted to lend money directly to the government could continue to do so by buying gilts. But why should lending to the government be encouraged by advertising National Savings and selling its products through the Post Office? The National Savings system was designed to encourage personal thrift and discourage spending in wartime. But thrift can be counter-productive in the depth of an economic slump.

Today, the government's priority should be to promote spending and investment, not saving. Perhaps the Treasury is starting to understand this. If so, an economic recovery should be on the way.

The politics of atrocity

A WEEK IN POLITICS

Politicians face a dilemma when war crimes hit headlines, says Peter Riddell



Dragged into war: Sir Edward Grey, foreign secretary in 1914, admits diplomacy has failed

former Soviet Union and in African countries like Somalia. We care because we see the killings on television and fellow white Europeans are involved.

The West has done what it always does in such situations, condemn and impose sanctions. But these are generally ineffective. The real question is whether to take military action, as the Americans did in Panama in

December 1989. Anything short of such intervention looks like a weak gesture. Not to do anything, however, is to concede the ineffectiveness of international diplomacy in face of determined thugs. So what used to be called the Great Powers have grappled with the dilemma of Yugoslavia. They were slow to recognise the rush into war, and muddled in their

recognition of the breakaway republics (largely because of the clumsiness of Germany). But their line has shifted, and is shifting, towards greater involvement. Thousands of United Nations troops are in Croatia in a partially successful peacekeeping role and less successfully in Bosnia in trying to ensure delivery of relief supplies. The debate now is mainly

about whether to extend the military protection of these supplies. There is a fine line in practice between protection and aggressive action against hostile groups. The differences between Mr Major, President Bush and their critics is in assessing what is feasible. Several of the options suggested by the critics were yesterday ruled out by Mr Major in a letter to Mr Ashdown. "Air power would be unlikely to be enough, given the guerrilla nature of the fighting, the terrain and the sort of weapons being used. All the advice I have tells me that we cannot use force as you propose without disproportionate risk to the lives of civilians and our armed forces."

The view in Whitehall — reinforced by Douglas Hurd's visit to the area last month — is that air power would be useless in stopping constantly moving snipers or people firing mortars in a city like Sarajevo, while tens of thousands of troops would be required to end the fighting. Military action might not be welcomed by the relief agencies which need to be seen as neutral. Despite these well-founded fears, pressure for action has grown. In America, the latest reports about concentration camps have evoked memories of the Holocaust and an already weak president is again in danger of looking ineffective in face of increased Democratic criticism. Some officials in Washington are blaming British and French caution. Any initiative will probably involve trying to improve the protection of convoys, increased humanitarian support and a fresh look at creating safe havens. That, and any punitive military action, will be linked to the conference in London on August 26.

This may not sound very much, but belated incrementalism is the most that western leaders reckon either that their policies will permit or that is practicable. Whatever we say, we cannot stop the killing. Like Baldwin, Mr Major is discovering the difficulties of candour in foreign policy.



...and moreover

PETER BARNARD

We are three. We gather on an ad hoc basis in the garden of the pub beside a lock on the River Avon. Our ostensible common interest is boats, which we moor nearby. One of us smokes a bear pipe, another wears a woolly hat. We resemble a freeze-frame from *Last of the Summer Wine*.

We are dressed in slacks and shirts of various colours, depending on which marine paint is in use that day. We munch and we sip. Round and about, a bit of business is being done, of the sort that is recession-proof.

A boy who is all of 12 years old squats on the lock gate, dangling from a piece of rope a sea magnet, which is to say, one that works under water. You need a special windlass to equalise the water level in a lock and people drop them overhead all the time. They cost nine quid new, the boy reckons three quid secondhand to locals, a fiver to tourists in rented narrow boats, a tanner on one momentous occasion when a family got into the lock but dropped the windlass before they could get out.

"Captive market, see?" says the boy, clicked beyond his years. Maybe four a week, he says. At 12, it's a living.

We are wondering, we three, if his activities extend fifty yards upstream, to our moorings. From the merely enterprising to the casually criminal, a tranquil activity, boating, you might think. Another world, far from city hassle and casual pointless crime. Dream on. We three and

a million more are not so much a leisure activity as a resource centre, an unwitting supplier of goods to the trade.

When I encountered a man who said he could not go boating that day because he had lost the combination to the locks that held his mooring ropes in place I thought he must be mad. Some kind of gadget-freak. That was as long ago as last week, before I arrived to find that a boat I had tied up the previous night, fore and aft as they say, had somehow spirited itself 200 yards downstream and was sitting in the rushes on top of a weir.

"Nothing in that," said woolly fat. He had recently met a fellow who moored a 30-foot luxury motor cruiser on the Thames, padlocked ropes, alarm, the lot. Fort Knox on the water. During the night, according to the way the police pieced it together, a small barge with a lifting hoist on it had arrived. The occupants got past the alarm system, disconnected the inboard engine (no easy task), hoisted it out of the boat and on to the barge.

"Probably met someone in a riverside pub who needed an engine," said briar pipe. "Same sort of thing as the car ringers in London."

A riverside pub? Well quite. I expect half the people seated around us, being tourists, think we have a jolly time, messing about with boats and drifting down here for half a lager and a sandwich. But we are working. We are the eyes and ears of the

local boating community, on whose behalf, at the time of writing, we are hoping to buy back one VHF aerial, one outboard engine, one hacksaw (they took away the hacksaw after using it to saw through the padlock on the engine), one punctured rubber dinghy, 30 feet of hawser, a compass, two fenders (brand new). We are even in the market for a pane of frosted glass, removed intact with the deft skill of a professional glazier. Mind you, I would not want to exaggerate: it took a whole week for that lot to disappear.

The police categorise it as "boat crime" and reports of same draw the kind of glazed look that you get at West End Central when you tell them the car has been nicked. The paper work proceeds but both sides of the counter know this ritual is as meaningless as a rain dance. The only difference is that the places you hang out in following a boat crime are a little more congenial than the ones where bits of cars turn up. But there is no noticeable diminution in the level of ire, the amount of gall, just because you are waiting to be taken for a ride in a place with a leaping salmon on its name board as opposed to a king's head.

So we three are sitting here waiting to buy back some things that we already own. The 12-year-old has not been around for a couple of days. Perhaps he has graduated. We can only hope that he will refuse no sensible offer.

Holiday writing

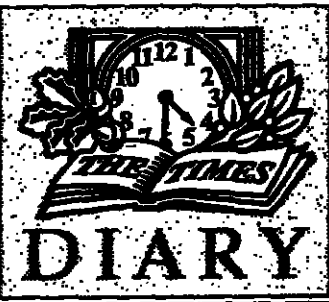
THE Duchess of York has resumed her literary career with a book that combines two subjects close to her heart: travel and the life of Queen Victoria. The illustrated book, provisionally entitled *The Travels of Queen Victoria*, will appear in the autumn of next year.

Victoria was the first monarch to travel extensively in Europe, a habit espoused by her successors, and much of the information for the work will be gleaned from the royal archives at Windsor Castle, which houses her diaries.

Despite her status, the Duchess will not be given preferential treatment. In common with all other royal authors and biographers, she will have to apply for permission from the archive's keeper. Victoria set the fashion for royals travelling in a private capacity under an assumed title of inferior rank. When she went to Switzerland, she travelled under the name of the Countess of Kent and, while forbidding any public demonstration, travelled through France in Napoleon III's imperial train. In March 1889, she became the first British sovereign to set foot on Spanish soil, and there were also trips to Italy and Ireland.

The Duchess, who knows a thing or two about holidays, is expected to retrace some of Victoria's journeys for the book. "There are still many things to be sorted out," says a spokeswoman for her publishers, Weidenfeld & Nicholson. "The Duchess's last book, *Victoria and Albert: Life at Osborne House*, was well done and sold very well."

Lady Longford, biographer of Queen Victoria, says diplomatically: "It should be a fascinating book if the Duchess is given access to the diaries. Queen Victoria was



a very amusing writer. But before you are allowed into the archive you have to show some work you have written, or prove your credentials. I think, especially as they know the Duchess, there should be no problem for her."

Humility truly is a sign of age. George Harrison, edging towards 50, is as confused about Beatlemania as the rest of us. "All we did was stand on a stage, sing a few tunes very quickly, shake our heads and go on," he says in *Vox* magazine.

Gunning for peace

AIDES of Turkish president, Turgut Ozal, have let it drop in the fashionable parlours of Istanbul that their leader has been nominated for the Nobel peace prize by no less a statesman than Perez de Cuellar. The former UN secretary-general is said to be impressed by Ozal's "sensitivity and contribution to the environment", in particular his plans to recruit an army of children to act as environmental scouts and tree-planters.

Ozal is no doubt hoping that his penchant for collecting designer revolvers will not prejudice his chances with the Nobel committee. According to customs documents, the president and his wife — a formidable woman famous for

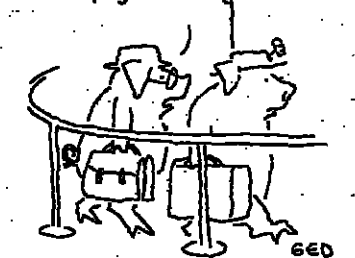
smoking Havana cigars — are generous in bestowing these expensive but deadly trinkets. One former minister is said to have eight. The Ozals may simply be using their privileged status to import items on behalf of a list of friends. Even so, one Turkish magazine estimates the cost of the 179 guns dished out so far at more than half a million pounds.

Streaky lightening

CONFIRMATION that pigs can fly. Small herds of pink trotters regularly winging their way to Mexico are causing headaches for AeroMexico, which has had to install air-conditioning and water systems on flights from Manchester for its new passengers.

A deal has been forged between British farmers and the Mexican

The flight was OK, but the food was pigswill.



government, enabling exports of pigs for breeding for the first time in ten years. They were banned a decade ago, because the Mexican authorities were convinced that too many porcine imports suffered from foot and mouth disease. A thousand pigs will be sent to Mexican breeding farms this year on an AeroMexico DC 8. The flights, costing £50 per pig, were initially hot and uncomfortable.

and the porkers tended to pant in mid-air. Tim Harris, a pig breeder advising the Mexicans, says: "We have had to pay special attention to the air-conditioning and install an automatic watering system. Pigs which have already made the flight seem to have found it extremely comfortable."

Mystery sail

THE new owner of the Lady Ghislaine was going to Maxwellian lengths to ensure secrecy last night, including registering the yacht under the name of an off-the-peg company.

Cowes was buzzing with the news that the boat had been sold after being advertised locally, but the identity of the reclusive Saudi Arabian sheikh was being kept close to the chest as the receivers and the yachting brokers all whom had signed secrecy clauses. The mystery sheikh already has one yacht, albeit smaller than the 180 ft Ghislaine. He is unlikely to remain a recluse for long. The yacht, which costs more than £1 million a year to run, does tend to dominate the shoreline.

As glasnost reaches the Kremlin, a picture of Russian bureaucracy emerges of which Sir Humphrey Appleby would be proud. When Stalin was in power, departmental heads of the central committee were served tea and sandwiches during their daily break. Junior officials were entitled to tea only. At one stage, a new title — Deputy departmental head — was introduced. Meetings were convened to decide whether the new appointees were entitled to sandwiches with their tea. After some wrangling, a compromise was reached. Deputy departmental heads would be served tea without sandwiches but would be supplied with a paper napkin.



BOSNIAN HORRORS

Revolting details are now emerging of the camps set up in Bosnia by the invading Serbs. Women and children are being herded at gunpoint into schools, halls and warehouses during the repulsive practice of "ethnic cleansing". From these detention centres they are being forced onto trains, to be exiled from their homeland. Men of fighting age, whether captured in the field or simply hauled out of their homes, are being sent to interrogation centres, where conditions are inhumane. Many have been killed by random executions. Food is scarce. Brutality is commonplace.

These reports are not the exaggerations of opportunists trying to whip up Western sympathy. They are the chilling assessments by officials in London, Washington and at the United Nations, and by the International Committee of the Red Cross. Journalists have penetrated behind the front lines and into the hideous ruins of communities that have been "cleansed", to bring back pictures of mutilated bodies and piecemeal evidence of inhumanity on a massive scale. The emotional impact on Western public opinion will be enormous. The scars of memory over Nazi concentration camps are still vivid wounds on the West's conscience.

It is already too late in much of Bosnia. The killings and deportations have happened. Now a frantic clean-up is beginning as the world demands to see what has been going on. While it is clear the camps — mostly stadiums, schools and warehouses — are not concentration camps in the Auschwitz sense of systematic centres of death, enough has been seen to force a drastic reappraisal of the war in Yugoslavia and its implications for humanity.

Nowhere will such a reappraisal have more impact than in America. Not only are there groups and communities especially sensitive to organised persecution — the Jews being probably the most vocal — but this is election year. Foreign policy traditionally plays little role in the choosing of the president. But this year things are different. Mr Bush has laid himself open to attack over

Yugoslavia. Having made his expertise in dealing with a turbulent world a main plank of his candidacy, his reluctance to be drawn into the Yugoslav imbroglio is attracting outrage and opprobrium.

The Democrats, swiftly discarding their earlier caution, are comparing his policy to the appeasement of Hitler. "Stop the death camps" the newspaper advertisements demand. Is it possible, they ask, that 50 years after the Holocaust the nations of the world, including America, will stand by and do nothing, pretending they are helpless?

In his failing efforts to find an electorally popular policy, Mr Bush may now be tempted into a simplistic commitment to send in the troops to try to liberate the camps immediately. Intervention looks ever more likely, as the balance between military caution and political calculation is altered by the weight of public outrage. And with America committed on the ground, Western Europe would surely have to follow.

The West must therefore at least draw up contingency plans. Nato, the Western European Union and national armies must now work out the logistics for what they have long warned against: involvement of troops as well as aircraft. There are still good reasons why intervention could prolong the bloodshed, though the calculation of risk must change with time. There is still hope that negotiations could succeed and humanitarian relief alleviate the suffering. There are still injustices in fixing all the blame on one side, as there is little doubt that the Croats and Muslims have also committed atrocities and set up detention centres for Serbs.

But Western leaders should not underestimate the shudder of revulsion engendered by the obscene pictures and grisly accounts of torture and death. It is no use waiting another three weeks for the international conference in London on Yugoslavia. Mr Bush must consult urgently now with other world leaders on a well planned response to such bestiality. If the pressure of domestic US opinion to intervene becomes irresistible, he had better get it right.

A DISCORDANT WHISTLE

The political sensitivity of the National Health Service reforms make it understandable that the first few "internal market" trust hospitals should threaten to sack employees who talked out of turn. Understandable but still regrettable. The success or failure of the reforms is a matter of intense and legitimate public interest. No facts, no debate, no debate, no confidence.

The health secretary, Virginia Bottomley, has therefore wisely insisted that health service employees with a genuine tale of woe should not be forced into silence by the threat of dismissal. She has not yet done enough to translate those good intentions into action, though her decision to have yesterday's appeal against dismissal by Dr Helen Zeidin, a consultant haematologist, heard in public, was a move of the right kind. Dr Zeidin claims to have blown a whistle on the run down of nursing staff in the Alexandra Hospital, Redditch, near Birmingham, which she said had put patient care at risk.

Even when they are wrong, doctors and nurses should be allowed to make such points. The answer to even mischievous or misleading information is to swamp it with the fair and accurate kind, not to gag everything and everyone. In this case, as the evidence showed, Dr Zeidin's complaints were far from groundless. The suspicion remains that her employer, which imposed redundancy on her, was simply trying to shut her up. Mrs Bottomley should use the Zeidin case to demonstrate that this will not be tolerated.

This is not an issue confined to the health service. Many employers dislike the idea that any one of their employees may "blow a whistle" at any time, accusing them of some unsafe or otherwise bad practice. This was a notable cause of industrial unrest on North Sea oil rigs two years ago, when there was disturbing evidence that workers reporting

unsafe conditions were being victimised. Clauses in contracts of employment demanding confidentiality from employees are almost invariably against the public interest. They can only be justified where genuine commercial secrets are at stake, such as the formula of a new product. Where a disclosure has had serious adverse consequences, an employer may still rely on the right to dismiss an employee for the general offence of gross misconduct.

This is one area where the decline of trade unionism in the workplace may create a vacuum in which the twin mischiefs of excessive secrecy and malicious denunciation will flourish. Such intermediate institutions between employer and employee can act as a lightning conductor. Employee organisations have channels outside line management by which employees' concerns can be addressed without them being personalised into accusations of disloyalty.

The Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974 is a model of its kind in this respect, as shown by its having survived intact through 13 years of Tory industrial relations legislation. It gives employees who wish to report unsafe practices a privileged route to go down without jeopardising their jobs. It makes whistle-blowing ultimately unnecessary.

But it refers only to dangers to employees, not to the general public. It may not be appropriate to widen the scope of the act to refer to threats to the health and safety of the public. But employers can learn from the spirit, if not the letter, of the 1974 Act. It sets a standard of measured and responsible reaction by employers to health and safety alarms raised by their employees. Only when such channels do not exist, or employees do not trust them, will whistles be blown in public. It is the sound of distrust in a workforce, the sound of bad management.

WHEN COLUMNS CRUMBLE

They are worried about the Old Man of Hoy. He is in danger of crumbling, so losing his place as the tallest and most colourful rock pillar in Britain. The Orkney Islands council is reported to be agonising over ways to protect their colossus from the ravages of old age and of the Atlantic hammering relentlessly at his feet.

If the Old Man is to retain his giant stature, four times the height of Nelson's column, something must be done. A gentle decline into old age is not an option if you are a sea stack. The huge wedge of sandstone near the summit through which daylight now shines weighs an uncalculable tonnage. Its collapse could have unpredictable consequences for the rest of the tottering 500ft high tower.

The possible loss of the Old Man, formed from the natural erosion of the huge sea cliffs on the west coast of Hoy, is alarming the council. At risk is the main attraction that brings hundreds of visitors to the island. The task of working the geological equivalent of a heart-lung transplant will be beyond the skills of the island's works department. Bold and full of hopeless optimism would be the council gang who arrived with their cement mixer at the foot of this particular contract. The pillar does not get any narrower from base to square-cut summit, nor does the maximum diameter ever exceed 100 feet, yet this extraordinary freak of nature has weathered the island's most violent gales.

Climbers insist that if the Old Man tumbles, they will have had little to do with his fall. The passage of a few score pairs of boots over the last 26 years cannot be compared with the damage inflicted by

countless centuries of Orkadian weather. But to anyone with the least urge to climb steep rock, this monolithic pillar is an irresistible challenge. To a climber's eye close inspection reveals an abundance of holds, to aid progress up the column's flanks.

Orkadians look askance at those who arrive to add their names, with firm or trembling hand, to the paper kept in a tin on the summit of the Old Man. They have included at least one young boy, a pensioner, and even a gentleman from *The Times*. But the islanders, normally most hospitable and friendly, distance themselves from any responsibility for the teams of rope-wreathed individuals who take the cliff top walk to the Old Man. A large sign at the ferry terminal warns all climbers attempting the ascent that they are on their own. There is neither the equipment, the skill, nor maybe the inclination among Hoy folk, to swarm up the stack to help any faltering foot.

Yet the Old Man exerts a fascination which glued 15 million people to their television screens 25 years ago when a group of climbers made their dizzy way to the top during one of the most successful outside broadcasts ever. Remnants of those early ascents remain in loops of old nylon and wedges of wood hammered for safety into the Old Man's side. Many a climber since has been glad to grab hold of them.

All things, rock or flesh, have their span. Whatever remedies the council applies, the Old Man will one day collapse, with a roar of apocalyptic thunder echoing across the Fensland Firth. All one can wish is that when it goes, the top is unoccupied, save for a lonely tin box and a copy of *The Times*.

Ways to help home-owners with mortgage problems

From Councillor Sebnem Ward

Sir, Abbey National's scheme for asking the taxpayer to pick up the tab for falling house prices has been rightly described by government sources as unworkable (report, August 4). It would bring a new meaning to the term "bed and breakfast" in housing, as home-owners follow the example of shareholders in setting up "bed and breakfast" deals to sell and immediately buy back their home to realise the tax loss.

The Woolwich and the National Westminster Bank are instead urging the government to agree a limited special offer doubling of tax relief for those who buy before a specified deadline (report, August 5). What short corporate memories these lenders have. When multiple tax relief for joint purchasers was abolished, it resulted in panic buying as purchasers, encouraged by bank and building society promotions, scrambled to beat the deadline. Many of those home-owners now in so much difficulty are suffering because they bought at the height of this artificially generated boom.

The remedy for loss of mobility in the housing market caused by borrowers holding a negative equity in their homes lies with the lenders themselves. If a "home-owner" has a mortgage of £60,000 on a house now worth only £50,000, then rather than forcing the borrower to find £10,000 to discharge his mortgage before he can move, the lender should allow the borrower to transfer his loan when he trades properties.

Instead of holding a 120 per cent mortgage on house A, the borrower would hold a 120 per cent mortgage on house B. Neither borrower nor lender would be any worse off, but mobility would be restored to the market.

If such a scheme requires a change in enabling legislation for building societies or banks, then it is this that the societies should be urgently discussing with ministers — not self-serving schemes for government bail-outs and further distortions in the already over-distorted UK housing market.

Yours faithfully,
SELWYN WARD,
London Borough of Bromley,
Members' Room,
Bromley Civic Centre,
Rochester Avenue, Bromley, Kent,
August 5.

From Mr Patrick M. Forman

Sir, Does the urge to build more "affordable" houses stem from the need to house the homeless, or to kick-start the flagging national economy?

All those concerned by the galloping pace of development across the countryside would be enlightened if the building and construction in-

dustries would choose which of these two quite disparate aims they rely upon in making their united pleas for more work.

If their answer is that a slack housing market is bad for the national economy, are we to assume that ever-larger tranches of the remaining countryside must for ever be sacrificed in return for future prosperity?

And, for those of us who already have homes, is the national game of playing musical houses really essential to a happy life and a healthy economy while so many other countries seem to manage well enough without the British obsession about owning more bricks and mortar than the next man?

Yours etc.,
PATRICK FORMAN,
25 Devonshire Road, Cambridge,
August 4.

From Mr Martin Hancock

Sir, Would not the simplest way to revive the housing market, and indeed to stabilise it for the future, be for building societies and other mortgage lenders to be induced to offer only fixed interest rate mortgages?

Booms in the housing market are exaggerated by low interest rates and falls by high interest rates. Variable mortgage interest rates move in line with short-term rates generally and can vary between, say, 8.5 per cent and 16 per cent within less than a year, whereas very long-term rates are rarely outside a range of about 9.5 per cent to 12.5 per cent.

House prices could never have reached the level they did in 1988 if buyers had been obliged to pay a higher, long-term interest rate and those same buyers would have been spared the subsequent dramatic rise in interest rates and corresponding fall in the value of their houses.

The present lack of confidence in the housing market appears to be caused primarily by fear of history repeating itself. No one can predict whether he will keep his job or what will happen to house prices; but common sense indicates that a large measure of confidence would be restored if all potential buyers knew that they could borrow money at, say, 10 per cent a year for at least the next ten years.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN HANCOCK,
2144 Old Brompton Road, SW5.

From Mr Jim T. Daniels

Sir, In 1976 I sold my house in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, for \$45,000; in 1991 the house was advertised for sale at \$49,000. In 1976 I bought a house in Blackpool, Lancashire, for £14,000; today that same house is advertised at £71,750.

School governors

From Mrs Marilyn Fletcher

Sir, The government proposes to legislate to enable groups of small primary schools to apply together for grant-maintained status, and to be jointly managed by a single governing body (report, July 29).

I have been a governor of a small rural primary school for three years and occasionally find the commitment and responsibility daunting. Until, several years ago, governing bodies met once a term but with the advent of local management of schools (LMS), meetings are far more frequent.

When we manage our own budget from April 1993 we expect to meet several times a month. All of the governors are prepared for this and willing to give their time freely.

However, the thought of opting out in a cluster of primary schools and belonging to a governing body wholly responsible for the group, all on a voluntary basis, does not tempt me and I am sure will be a positive deterrent to others.

Many governors give their services because of their commitment to their local school and staff. If even more time is to be demanded of them surely they should receive some financial compensation?

Indeed this may be the only way to attract sufficient numbers of adequately qualified people. A great deal of money will be saved at local authority level if the governors are running the schools. Is it too cynical to suggest that this is just another cost-saving exercise?

Yours faithfully,
MARILYN FLETCHER,
3 Chancery Close,
Walton, Street,
Somerset,
July 29.

Library services

From Mrs Penelope Lively

Sir, Like Joanna Richardson (letter, July 28), I too welcome the assurance by the chief executive of the British Library that there is no immediate intention to impose charges for a reader's pass. But Miss Richardson's peevish diatribe about the atmosphere of the library and the quality of its staff is misplaced.

All users know — or ought to know — that the library is functioning under pressure at the moment. It seems to me that an excellent standard of service is being kept up under difficult circumstances. For instance, Joanna Richardson ignores the efficiency of the telephone ordering service, of which I am a regular user and have always found the answering voice courteous, helpful and effective: the books duly

Health initiative

From Professor Dame Margaret Turner-Warwick

Sir, May I support Virginia Bottomley's positive response to critics of her white paper, *The Health of the Nation* ("Why does nanny get their goat?", *Life & Times*, July 22).

The real importance of the white paper is that the government is now publicly committed to playing a central role in preventing disease. Those in charge will need to develop strategies to achieve their targets and they have promised to monitor progress.

Where tactics such as relief of poverty or banning advertising of cigarettes have been shown to be effective ways of reducing causes of ill health, we must anticipate consistent action.

Health is not, however, a matter for government alone. The health-care professions, including doctors, must play their part in informing the public of risks. The Royal College of Physicians has already contributed a

Venice death

From Mr George Pincus

Sir, I was in Venice last Sunday night and witnessed the incident that resulted in the death of a tourist (report, August 5).

One of the large steamers which forms the regular service to the Lido and outlying islands was docking. Its reverse wash overturned a gondola coming out from a side canal between the new and original building which forms the Danieli Hotel.

We had earlier remarked how well gondolas deal with the normal and substantial power traffic on the Grand Canal and water immediately in front of the Riva Schiavoni and St Mark's Square. The problems seem to arise when gondolas come out

arrive, ready and waiting when promised.

I don't recognise the "ancillary staff" from her irritable account, while her suspicions about the motivation of fellow users are mildly risible. Anyone going to the BL "in order to socialise" must be singularly badly informed about convenient sites for a chat.

Yours sincerely,
PENELOPE LIVELY,
c/o Murray Pollinger,
222 Old Brompton Road, SW5.

From Mr Frank Cole

Sir, Miss Joanna Richardson expresses her belief that many readers in the British Library could under-

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

On the assumption that 70 per cent of the house value is mortgaged, the interest charges to the UK house-owners would appear to have quadrupled whilst the US house-owner's mortgage repayments have increased by less than 10 per cent.

The current clamour for a boost to the housing market, a kick-start for home sales, etc. — all euphemisms for house price increases — will merely result in the UK house-owner continuing to have less disposable income, with a consequently detrimental effect on the non-housing economy.

Could some of our political leaders take a longer view and leave house prices to drift even lower, for the long-term benefit of the nation's future?

Yours truly,
JIM T. DANIELS,
3 Fowlers Mead, Chobham, Surrey,
August 4.

From Mr Peter F. Pugsley

Sir, "Substituted security" is the answer to the mortgage trap. If a £60,000 house and £60,000 mortgage in Hampshire is up to date with his mortgage payments and wants to move to a £60,000 house in Yorkshire, he should be able to move and substitute the security of the Yorkshire house for the security of the Hampshire house.

The building society has no less security. If the move is coupled with a better job the borrower's personal covenant will improve in value.

Amending legislation would be necessary, but a short "Building Societies (Substituted Security) Act" could go through all its stages very quickly.

To bring those in the mortgage trap back into the market would benefit the market far more than a modest cut in interest rates.

Yours faithfully,
PETER F. PUGSLEY,
Hole & Pugsley (Solicitors),
6 St Peter Street, Tiverton, Devon,
August 3.

From Mr John Copeland

Sir, There would appear to be no limit to the demands that we have to face as taxpayers: failed pension schemes, lost investments, and now the request that we should, through a proposed tax credit scheme, reimburse house-owners who have over-reached themselves.

Presumably the day cannot be very far away when we will be giving tax relief for people who have not fully enjoyed their holidays.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN COPELAND,
1 The Hall Yard, Burton-by-Linkin.

Business letters, page 19

number of publications on more detailed medical aspects of preventive medicine in general and smoking in particular.

But above all, every individual member of the community must take personal responsibility for their own lifestyle.

Debates on whether setting targets for health are facile or focus effort, whether government advice is nannying interference or sensible leadership, or whether the priority areas are the right or wrong ones, detract from the central purpose of the initiative.

Let us congratulate the Secretary of State and her predecessor for launching this mighty initiative and support their policy for striving towards a healthier nation.

Yours sincerely,
MARGARET TURNER-WARWICK
(President, Royal College of Physicians, 1989-92),
11 St Andrews Place,
Regent's Park, NW1,
August 3.

from the numerous side canals onto (in road traffic terms) main roads.

The answer seems to be to move the steamer/regular service stops away from the few areas where this can happen, particularly in front of the Danieli Hotel to 100 metres towards the Arsenal and away from the Giglio stop abutting the Gritti Hotel.

At all costs the gondoliers should be given practical support to recognise their unique contribution to the transport system of this wonderful city.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE PINCUS,
Oshold, Surrey,
August 5.

Two examples in Miss Richardson's own borough of Camden spring to mind: the limited hours at Keats House, the major London resource library on Keats and the romantic poets, with which she must be very familiar, and the closure in 1988 of the St Pancras reference library with seating for over 100 readers and a stock of over 60,000 volumes.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK COLE,
16 Thornton Dene,
Beckenham, Kent.

Differences that manners make

From the Chairman of the Polite Society

Sir, Good manners are in decline, as Lord Ridley asserts in his splendid article, "Snobbery and yobbery" (*Life & Times*, August 3). He has stated almost precisely the case that the Polite Society has been making for six years.

The time has come for serious attention to be paid to considerate behaviour as an ingredient in the quality of our national life. Singapore spends some £200,000 a year on a month of national courtesy training and the effects are remarkable: it is on the whole a civilised, successful and cheerful place.

The Polite Society holds a British national day of courtesy every year, calling attention to aspects of courteous behaviour: this year it will be on October 2, with the theme "Courtesy opens doors".

We remain convinced that better manners would reduce accidents, encourage family life, improve trade and in many ways make this country a more prosperous and pleasant place. Lord Ridley described the problem: we have a strategy for dealing with it.

Yours faithfully,
GERY HANSON,
Chairman, Polite Society,
Potters Lodge, 74a Slough Road,
Iwer Heath, Buckinghamshire,
August 4.

From Mr Kevin Bakhurst

Sir, Perhaps Lord Ridley should reflect on the role of the government of which he was a member for a while. Of the many things that he and Lady Thatcher achieved between them, respect for other members of society wasn't at the forefront.

Personal wealth and gain were consistently put ahead of consideration for others. Lady Thatcher put her view of "community" better than most when, famously, she denied there was such a thing as society.

Yours faithfully,
KEVIN BAKHURST,
69 Church Road, Little Heath,
Potters Bar, Hertfordshire,
August 3.

From Mr Philip Carter

Sir, Lord Ridley falls prey to the common fault of setting honesty and the truth as twin objectives. Yet the two are at variance with each other.

He writes: "If asked for money for a cause which one does not support, it is better to plead 'I cannot take on any more commitments' than to say one disapproves of the cause." Yet surely this denies moral integrity for the sake of alleged good manners.

If one disapproves of a cause one should have reasons for so doing: if one argues for those reasons it may be that those who support the cause may be able, through open and honest discussion, to convert you or you them. At worst, you will both know where you stand.

Truthfulness and rudeness are not to be confused. One can still have genuine manners without violating the truth. The truth, however harsh it may be, is always therapeutic. It is lies, however well intentioned, that do the damage.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP CARTER,
The White House, 21 Cannon Road,
Southgate, N14,
August 4.

From Mr M. C. Shaw

Sir, I take issue with Lord Ridley's statement that "some people are offensive... for no good reason... abusive in shops". Recently I visited a City shirtmaker in search of detachable collars. The shop assistant received me indifferently while leaning on a counter reading a book. I drew myself up and said: "You sloppy man. You would never have made my regiment. Stand up and look at me when I am talking to you." He did!

Yours sincerely,
M. C. SHAW,
Naval & Military Club,
94 Piccadilly, W1,
August 3.

From Miss Lola Gonzalez

Sir, I read N. Ridley's article with increasing disbelief. As a European, I find there is nothing more irritating than the tendency of the English people to say what they think you want to hear. The only clear result is that you never know what the English person really thinks.

Yours etc.,
LOLA GONZALEZ,
33 Gilbert Road, Bromley, Kent,
August 4.

From Mr Andrew Boff

Sir, Do Lord Ridley's rules of etiquette include not being beastly to the Germans?

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW BOFF,
23 Amberley Way,
Hillingdon, Middlesex,
August 3.

Off the road

From Miss Diana A. Bond

Sir, "Hazard warning lights flashing and the bonnet up" (Mrs Ann Meloy's letter, August 6) — the lengths some people are prepared to go to in order to get their new car noticed!

Yours sincerely,
DIANA A. BOND,
The Garden Flat, 3 Heath Villas,
The Vale of Health, NW3.

OBITUARIES

ALEXIS RASSINE

Alexis Rassine, a former leading dancer of the Sadler's Wells Ballet, died on July 25, the day before his 73rd birthday. He was born in Kaunas, Lithuania.

ALEXIS Rassine was a dancer whose flair and talent found exactly their right time. Joining the Sadler's Wells Ballet in 1942 as a principal dancer, he filled the need for a lyrical leading man during the company's wartime tours and intensive London seasons at the New Theatre (now the Albery). On the company's move to Covent Garden in 1946, he remained for almost another decade an outstanding interpreter of certain roles and a valuable member of the group who sustained the leading parts in the classic repertoire. But he became increasingly challenged by a new generation with a more vigorous style, and by the time he left the company in the mid-1950s (shortly before it received its Royal Charter) he was scarcely missed.

His dancing was soft and pliant in a style which would probably not find favour today, perhaps inclined to a rococo extravagance, and certainly not noted for virtuosic authority. Although he had the ability to take on roles calling for strong technique, he was never the most brilliant practitioner of them, and it is not as a virtuoso that he is best remembered. But he had a good appearance (unfortunately not improved by plastic surgery late in his career when his handsome curved nose was sadly truncated into what looked more like a button), he manifested a pleasing personality on stage, and had the distinction of partnering many of the leading ballerinas of his day.

He was born in Lithuania, of Russian parents soon after the Russian Revolution; the family name was Rays or Rayes, which he modified for the stage. They moved to South Africa and he was brought up there, beginning his dance studies when he was about 15. Arriving in Europe in his late teens as a South African



Alexis Rassine in the role of Albrecht in *Giselle*

citizen, he went first to Paris where he studied with two of the great Russian émigré teachers, Prokhorovskaya and Volinine, and made his stage debut dancing in a revue at the Bal Tabarin. But he was unable to win admission to the Ballet at the Paris Opera, so he moved to Britain where a brief engagement with Ballet Rambert in 1938 left no great mark.

After further studies with Volkova and Idzikovsky, he joined John Regan's Ballets Trois and Arts for its 1939-40 season at the Lyric, Hammersmith, where he was one of several young dancers entrusted with solo parts. When lack of funds made them suspend activities, he went to the Arts Theatre Ballet directed by Keith Lester but soon moved to the

Anglo-Polish Ballet on its foundation in 1940 and became prominent during its successful tours.

By early 1942, Ninette de Valois was urgently seeking replacements for the leading men who had left the Sadler's Wells Ballet to join the armed forces or to dance elsewhere. Rassine was invited to join in March 1942 and at once took leading roles in *Les Sylphides*, Ashton's *Fuade* (dancing the Popular Song) and *Les Rendezvous*, the Bluebird in *The Sleeping Beauty* and as Franz in *Coppélia* — a role he was to make very much his own, dancing it nearly a hundred times over the next ten years, far more than any of his other performers.

Before 1942 was over he had the first of his surprisingly few created roles, as the Dove in Robert Helpmann's *The Birds* (partnering the 15-year-old Beryl Grey), and soon there followed further parts in Ashton's patriotic creation *The Quest* and as the Blue Skater in *Les Patineurs*, in de Valois's *The Gods Go A-Begging* and *The Prospect Before Us*, Harlequin in *Le Carnaval*, Albrecht in *Giselle*, and partnering the 18-year-old Moira Shearer as the lovers in Helpmann's *Miracle in the Gorbals*.

During the 1944-45 season *Le Spectre de la Rose* was revived for Margot Fonteyn and Rassine; he also partnered Fonteyn in the premiere of the new production of *Giselle* after the Sadler's Wells Ballet's move to Covent Garden in 1946. However, he was soon superseded as Fonteyn's frequent partner by Michael Somes. Curiously, it was some years before Rassine was given the "prince" roles in *Swan Lake* and *The Sleeping Beauty*.

He gave a memorably crisp, dapper account of the Snob in Massine's 1947 revival of *La Boutique Fantasque*, and although he did not prove the most warlike of Red Knights when de Valois's *Checkmate* was restored to the repertoire that year, he had notable success in two of

her other productions: as a dandyish friend of the Rake in *The Rake's Progress* and as Elihu in *Job*, bringing consolation and faith to the title character. De Valois also made for him the "Golden Age" duet in her 1950 *Don Quixote* to Roberto Gerhard's score.

When Ashton created *Cinderella* in 1948 and *Sylvia* in 1952, Rassine was one of the men sharing the leading roles, but not in the opening cast; he did however have parts made for him by Ashton in Purcell's *The Fairy Queen* (the hybrid production with which Sadler's Wells Ballet helped launch the Covent Garden Opera) and as Nadia Nerina's partner in *Homage to the Queen*. Rassine danced often with Nerina; they toured South Africa together with a concert programme in 1952, ending with a guest season of *Swan Lake* in Johannesburg. In 1955 they undertook a longer tour of 35,000 miles through much of Africa, concluding with 14 performances of *Giselle* in a fortnight in Cape Town.

It was about this time that Rassine left the Covent Garden company; the writing was on the wall with a new, more robust staging of *Coppélia*, in 1954 in which his old role went to the new generation led by David Blair. However, he and Nerina undertook concert tours of a Ballet Highlights programme through British cities, giving five items a night, six times a week. Among other choices they mounted a two person version of *L'Ami-midi d'un Faune*. Rassine also appeared occasionally as guest with the Walter Gore Ballet, and with his old company at Covent Garden, including his farewell performances in 1958 when he partnered the French guest ballerina Yvette Chauvire.

After leaving the stage Rassine took some private pupils but lived mostly in retirement in the country house which he shared with (and later inherited from) his close friend the writer and publisher John Lehmann.

APPRECIATIONS

Robert Liddell

ROBERT Liddell (obituary, July 27) was deeply affected all his life by the theme of unkind step-parents and unhappy childhoods. It arose from his own experience but what came, too, out of the latter was intense affection for his younger brother, Donald. In the late 1930s they shared a flat in north Oxford whose atmosphere is so memorably described in *The Last Enchantments*, only very partially a novel. Reading it I still recover the feel of 86b Banbury Road. They were pacifists, and as the war grew closer Robert went to work in Helsinki and then in Alexandria, but Donald stayed at home to be called up and suffer the strain of conscientious objection.

A young man of exceptional gentleness, Donald found himself a member of a bomb disposal squad and victim of the jibes to which the conscientious objector was often subjected. Later in the war he volunteered to be a stretcher bearer in the Parachutists and he was killed in Normandy in June 1944 only a few days after landing. For Robert the death of his brother was devastating. *The Last En-*



chancements was dedicated to his memory, but it made him feel he could never return to live in England.

The Last Enchantments includes a large and apparently somewhat unattractive Catholic family arriving on an upper floor. In fact, in Robert's absence, Donald found a new home in our midst. The Catholicism Robert had embraced as a young man remained, nevertheless, one of the only things which had separated him from Donald and in memory he found even such separation painful.

Professor Adrian Hastings

Lieut-Colonel Walter Hingston

Your obituary of Lieutenant-Colonel Walter Hingston (August 1) refers too briefly to his work as Information Officer to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Hingston occupied this post during the construction of the radio telescope at Jodrell Bank. His handling of the complex public relations was masterly and without his help and wisdom it is doubtful if the project would have survived. The investigation of the cost of the instrument by the Public Accounts Committee led to legal complications that nearly proved disastrous for the telescope and the observatory.

I remember with gratitude Hingston's constant guidance and calm optimism throughout those years of suspense. In 1987, the thirtieth anniversary of the first operation of the



telescope, Hingston returned to Jodrell Bank. He was then slightly but assuredly that he had no difficulty in visualising the telescope and that he, rightly, regarded his association with its creation as a most important part of his life's work.

Sir Bernard Lovell

Juanita

THE Ganjou Brothers and Juanita (obituary, July 30) worked for my father, George Black, many times at the London Palladium and on the Moss Empire Circuit.

As you state, Juanita was a diminutive figure who was hurled across the stage to be caught by one of the Brothers, Bob. If, however, they made a mistake during the act, when they came off stage the tiny Juanita would give them a real dressing down, berating the three husky brothers until they fled to their dressing room for sanctuary.

Alfred Black



Juanita, partnered by the Ganjou Brothers

HARROLD CARSWELL

G. Harrold Carswell, whose nomination to the United States Supreme Court by President Nixon in 1970 sparked a political storm, died in Tallahassee, Florida, on July 31 aged 72. He was born in Irwin, Georgia.

HARROLD Carswell never made it to the Supreme Court bench, and perhaps the most surprising thing about his attempt to get there was that he was chosen in the first place. He was not, his supporters were forced to admit, a great legal brain.

"Even if he is mediocre," argued Republican Senator Roman Hruska at Carswell's confirmation hearing, "there are a lot of mediocre judges and people and lawyers. They are entitled to a little representation, aren't they, and a little chance?" That quotation won Senator Hruska an entry in Bartlett's *Familiar Quotations*, but it did little to convince the Senate, which rejected Carswell's nomination by 51 votes to 45. He was only the third Supreme Court nominee this century to be turned down.

In truth, Harrold Carswell was the victim of a party political conflict over the composition of the Supreme Court which had little to do with his personal merits. The issue was the philosophical bent of the court, with liberals and conservatives, then as now, locked in battle.

This particular struggle had its origins in President Johnson's 1968 attempt to nominate Justice Abe Fortas for promotion to Chief Justice.

Under bitter attack from Republicans and conservatives, Johnson withdrew the nomination and Fortas subsequently resigned from the Court after accusations of financial misconduct.

By this time Richard Nixon was in the White House, and he nominated Clement F. Haynsworth to fill the Fortas vacancy. However, Haynsworth, too, was under suspicion of ruling in cases in which he had a financial interest, and he was also opposed by union and civil rights organisations. The Senate, controlled by the Democrats, rejected the nomination.

Nixon turned to Harrold Carswell, a little-known jurist whose one claim to distinction was his appointment by President Eisenhower to the federal bench at the age of 38, making him the youngest Federal judge of the time. Carswell promptly found himself under the kind of intense scrutiny that has since become commonplace for Supreme Court nominees. It did not take opponents long to discover that in 1948 he had made a speech in support of white supremacy and had helped convert a municipal golf course to private ownership to avoid racial integration.

Rejected by the Senate, Carswell resigned from the appeals court. He sought the Republican nomination for the United States Senate from Florida, but was defeated in the primary and went back to corporate law.

In 1976 Carswell was fined \$100 on a conviction for making a sexual advance to a plain clothes male police officer in a men's room.

The Right Rev Albert John Trillo, Bishop of Chelmsford from 1971 to 1985, died on August 1 aged 77. He was born on July 4 1915.

JOHN Trillo was one of the considerable number of men in the 1920s and 1930s who would have probably found it impossible to prepare for ordination had it not been for the particular facilities offered by King's College, London, which enabled them to study Greek, Hebrew and basic theology before becoming full-time students. His schooling was in Marylebone and, because of the depression and his father's unemployment, he was obliged to leave Quintin Hogg School at 16 years of age.

He worked for a time with Warner Brothers, selling films in the daytime and studying in the evening at King's where, in 1938, he took a first class honours B.D. Although not a scholar in the technical sense, he was scholarly, and in due course he went on to take his M.Th. Later in his career he was to become a fellow of King's, London.

War-time curacies were served in Fulham and Cuckfield, and from 1945 to 1950 he was north east secretary of the Student Christian Movement in Schools. It was in these years, organising conferences for sixth formers and establishing SCM groups in schools, that John Trillo's considerable skills as a teacher and communicator were fully used, as well as being recognised in the wider Church.

The war over, intelligent sixth formers were seeking



directions and values to guide them in the tasks of reconstruction which lay ahead. He rose to this challenge with enthusiasm, and he found a wide outlet for his intellectual gifts which were made accessible to so many people by his warm personality.

To the end John Trillo described himself as first and foremost a pastor, and although he frequently spoke wistfully of the academic life, it was parochial ministry which

called him. During his five years as a rector of Frimley Barnet he did not need much persuasion to do a little teaching at King's, London. These years and the following eight which he served as principal of Bishop's College, Cheshunt (a theological college now closed), were regarded by him as enormously satisfying and fulfilling. They were also fun. Those to whom he ministered in these years frequently refer to his warmth and his wit.

THE RIGHT REV JOHN TRILLO

Church news

Clergy Appointments

The Rev Roger Jackson, Assistant Curate, St John the Evangelist, Hale (Guildford); to be Vicar, St Michael and All Angels w. St Catherine, Barton w. Peel Green (Manchester).

The Rev Canon Christopher Lewis, Team Rector, Whitstable Team Ministry; to be also Rural Dean of Reculver (Canterbury). The Rev Thomas Lynds, Priest-in-charge, Rainham w. South Hornchurch; to be Vicar, St John and St Matthew (Chelmsford).

The Rev Simon May, Curate, Tamworth (Lichfield); to be Vicar, Whitchurch (Exeter). The Rev Verna Morgan, Parish Deacon, St Martin's, Pinner (Ripon); to be Parish Deacon, St Luke's, Longside (Manchester).

The Rev Michael Pomeroy, Curate, Rainham; to be Priest-in-charge, South Hornchurch, St John and St Matthew (Chelmsford). The Rev Colin Preece, Vicar, Kennington; to be also Rural Dean of East Charing (Canterbury).

The Rev Christopher Pullin, Vicar, New Eltham, All Saints (Southwark); to be Vicar, St John in Bedwardine, Worcester (Worcester).

The Rev John Record, Vicar, Hawkhurst; to be reappointed Rural Dean of West Charing

(Canterbury) for a second term of three years.

The Rev John Suddards, Assistant Curate, Halsead; to be Priest-in-charge, Great and Little Yeldham, Tilbury-juxta-Clare and Stanbourne w. Toppsfield (Chelmsford).

The Rev Frank Sudworth, Vicar, Christ Church, Upper Armeley; to be also Rural Dean of Armeley (Ripon). The Rev Cherry Vann, Parish Deacon, St Michael, Flixton; to be Chaplain to the Bolton Institute of Higher Education, and Bolton Metropolitan College of Further Education (Manchester).

The Rev David Vince, Assistant Priest, St Giles, Cripplegate w. St Bartholemew, Moor Lane (London); to be Rector, Salwarpe and Hindlip w. Martin Hussington (Worcester).

The Rev Graham Weir, Assistant Curate (NSM), St Mary's, High Crompton, Shaw; to be Assistant Curate (NSM), St Mark's, Hespide, Ripon, (Manchester).

The Rev Canon Grant Welch, Curate, Loughston, St John; to be Team Rector, Loughston Team Ministry (Chelmsford). The Rev David Wheeler, Curate, Hythe (Canterbury); to be Curate, Knarsborough (Ripon).

The Rev Roger White, formerly Rector, Brinklow and Harborough Magna, and Vicar, Monks Kirby w. Strumton-under-Fosse (Coventry); to be Priest-in-charge, St Anne, Lydgate w. Christ Church, Friesland (Manchester).

New role for Lord Armstrong

LORD Armstrong of Ilminster, the chairman of the Victoria and Albert Museum and a former cabinet secretary, has become chairman of Number One Poultry, the company promoting Sir James Stirling's development of the Mappin and Webb City site owned by Lord Palumbo.

The chairmanship took effect from August 1 in succession to Lord De L'Isle, who died last year.

The post-modernist development, described by the Prince of Wales as looking like a 1930s wireless, finally defeated objections from the City of London, English Heritage and conservationists in the House of Lords last year.

However, the new building, which will replace a Victorian grade two listed building, still has a hurdle to overcome before work can begin. Bucklebury, behind the site, would have to be closed and this is being resisted by the City of London corporation, which is citing a charter of 1642 saying that it requires the thoroughfare to be kept open.

Orkney seeks to save Old Man of Hoy from ravages of time

By KERRY GILL

FEARS for the future of the Old Man of Hoy, the 450ft rock that sticks out of the Atlantic on the extreme west coast of Orkney, have prompted an investigation into ways of mounting a rescue.

Orkney council has announced that it is to hold discussions over how to save the rock after warnings that it may eventually crumble into the sea, depriving the archipelago of one of its best known attractions. An engineering company has offered to assess the severity of the threat to the Old Man by establishing sophisticated electronic monitoring equipment on the rock and on the nearby cliffs, to measure the extent of the erosion.

The Old Man, which is as high as St Paul's Cathedral and considered to be the supreme test of a rock climber's ability, has attracted climbers as young as 7 and as old as 67. It was first scaled in 1966, although legend has it that an islander once climbed to the top and down again,

realised that he had forgotten his pipe, and dashed back up to retrieve it. Last year Ronald Faux, a journalist for *The Times*, climbed the stack to mark the 25th anniversary of the first successful attempt. He recalls the event with recurring spasms of terror.

Britain's highest free-standing sea stack has been the focus of many successful attempts since, and of military exercises and television broadcasts, but the ravages of storms and a generation of climbers' pitons have begun to take their toll.

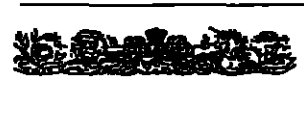
In truth the pile's future is not so much threatened by the attentions of rock climbers as by the ravages of the weather and the sea. Water fills cracks at the top and when it freezes the rock tends to split. This, coupled with sea action at its base, is creating the greatest danger. Experts are divided over whether the Old Man could crumble within a few years or remain for centuries. It was once part of a headland, but became separated

rated from the shore by wind and wave erosion. Alastair Scholes, chairman of the Orkney tourist board and the council's vice-convenor, has expressed horror at the thought that one of the attractions of the archipelago should be under threat. "It is vital to save the Old Man," he said. "We cannot afford to lose our most important, natural landmark. At this stage it must be possible to do something at a reasonable cost."

Howie Pirih, another councillor, said: "Nature is very difficult to reverse although there could be a fairly simple solution." Phil Davies, of the engineers Mott MacDonald, Scotland, said: "It would be possible to detect if cracks on the Old Man are widening and to see whether the rock stack is slowly collapsing inwards. We have a team of engineering geologists. Many of them can climb and they are dead keen to have a go."

Leading article, page 11

August 7 ON THIS DAY 1925



This outbreak of exceptional pithead violence was all the more unexpected because the six-month strike seemed to be petering out, as the government negotiated a truce with the union leaders. It looked, therefore, like a last desperate throw by the extremists.

AMMANFORD RIOT POLICE IN DESPERATE FIGHT

There are many bandaged heads in the streets of Ammanford today as the result of the rioting last night. Eleven large motor brakes fitted with police from Cardiff arrived this afternoon. There are now cordons of police in the streets, and it seems clear that any processions or new demonstrations that the strikers may try to organise will be dispersed as constituting unlawful assemblies. There are now probably over 200 police in the neighbourhood — a force which, it is thought, is sufficient to cope with any conceivable emergency. The course of events may be outlined as follows:

The mob marched to the pithead, headed by their leaders, though it is only fair to assume that the latter accompanied the men in order to see if they could exercise a moderating influence. In the colliery office yard were a number of police, not exceeding a dozen, and they kept quiet. The men's leaders halted some distance away to hold a council, but the rest of the crowd surged on and began to throw stones at the windows of the offices. The Deputy Chief Constable, seeking to avert trouble, came out from the yard and addressed the men, at the same time dispatching a message to the leaders. While

he was urging the men to go back to their homes he was the victim of a vindictive assault. Someone threw a brick, which struck him in the face, and at the same time another man hit him with a prop. Seeing their chief fall, the local constabulary dashed out of the yard with drawn staves, and made a charge. The reserves were a very considerable distance away.

Meanwhile help had been summoned by telephone and a body of Glamorgan Constabulary were sent by motor omnibuses to the scene of the riot. Before their arrival, however, things went hard with the Carmarthen men. They were outnumbered by fifty to one. The arrival of the riot party some of the rioters made their way back to the weighing room and the lamp room, and wrecked both. The doors were broken in by battering-rams, and the windows were smashed. Other strikers sought to invade the premises of the deputy-manager, and finding themselves held, flung stones. Not a pane of glass was left unbroken in any of these buildings, and some of the premises were completely wrecked.

The leaders of the assault had taken the precaution of throwing out large bodies of pickets to wait for the arrival of the police, and also to turn back any other persons who had interest in reaching the scene. One motor brake charged through the crowd and got to the centre of the fighting, bringing much-needed relief to the hard-pressed local police, but the other brakes were surrounded by a furious mob, which hurled every sort of missile it could obtain at the police. The struggle was a keen one, for many of the men had armed themselves with staves and pieces of iron, while there was a constant shower of stones, bricks, and other missiles. By this time the alarm had been circulated generally, and from all the surrounding areas relief parties began to pour in, many of the men being strange to the locality.

ICA targets firms in accountancy discipline review

By JON ASHWORTH

TOUGH powers to discipline accountancy firms are being proposed as part of an overhaul by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

The scope of disciplinary procedures could be widened to include firms as well as individual partners in a drive to make firms more accountable to clients. Disciplinary hearings may be opened to outside observers under plans put to the institute's council this week.

At present, when a complaint is received against a firm, the institute, with some exceptions, has to identify an individual member as being responsible for the alleged default. The ICA believes this is unrealistic for those complaints where the default was due to a corporate decision. It proposes to make firms liable

for poor workmanship and other instances where professional conduct falls short of required standards.

Elwyn Eilledge, senior partner of Ernst & Young and chairman of an ICA working party on disciplinary matters, said changes to the rules would keep the ICA up to date. "When clients have gone to a firm of chartered accountants and believe they have been treated badly, they tend to complain against the firm, not the engagement partner, and are surprised when the institute tells them they cannot do so. In this, they are probably more in tune with reality than are the present bylaws."

The changes, if implemented, will not affect cases such as that of Richard Stone of Coopers & Lybrand and Michael Jordan of Cork Gully, who are the subject of a

disciplinary hearing by the institute. Complaints relating to insolvency matters will always focus on the individuals concerned. The proposals are being opened to consultation. Any bylaw changes agreed will be put to the membership in June 1993. Discussion is continuing on whether disciplinary hearings such as those involving Mr Stone and Mr Jordan should be opened to the public.

In a separate move, the ICA has increased pressure on the government to abolish compulsory audits for very small companies. An ICA working party has suggested that companies below the £36,600 turnover threshold for compulsory VAT registration should drop out of the audit net altogether. Companies with turnover of up to £300,000 should be allowed to opt out of an audit, provided such a move has the unanimous support of directors. The matter would be put to the vote each year.

In place of an audit, companies would be required to submit a "compilation report" on preparation of the accounts furnished by an accountant. Directors would have to sign a statement, acknowledging their responsibilities for the accounts. Scrapping the statutory audit could save small companies between 20 and 55 per cent of the cost of overall accountants' fees.

Exceptions to the rule would include small firms of financial advisers, which have to submit to an audit as part of the vetting process required under the Financial Services Act (1986). The proposals follow an indication this year that the trade department was prepared to consider relaxing the audit rules relating to very small companies. Chris Swinson, chairman of the ICA's financial reporting and auditing group, said: "In many people's eyes, the statutory audit has become a needless and expensive burden for smaller companies." Further consultation on the proposals is planned.

Comment, page 19

BA accuses Brussels of double standards

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

BRITISH Airways yesterday accused the European Commission of double standards in over-scrutinising its air fares while ignoring the government support that allows its rivals to run cheaper tariffs.

In the EC's *Official Journal*, Karel van Miert, transport commissioner, targets BA as the biggest offender in overcharging on routes within the Community.

The commission has listed 11 BA flights into Britain and three outward services whose business-class fares are not justified by operating costs or competitive conditions. Brussels has ruled that BA cannot use the tariffs, which were for last summer, as the basis of future fare structures.

BA spokesmen yesterday said the airline had completely revised its European fare structure since 1991, but the EC seemed to be paying little attention to practices at its largely state-owned European rivals. "We're being penalised for efficiency," said one BA

spokesman. BA has expressed dismay in the past two months as Brussels allowed state subsidies to Air France and Iberia of £128 million and £662 million respectively. The EC referred to the Air France cash as "a normal financial transaction". In both cases the cash was approved by Mr van Miert.

The three outward fares targeted were from Birmingham to Paris, Düsseldorf and Frankfurt, at £185, £172 and £209 for standard business returns. Although less now (£183, £171 and £207 respectively), a spokeswoman said the commission's investigation "had nothing to do with" BA's new fare structure. She was concerned that the civil aviation authority, which referred the BA fares to Brussels, was not referring fares set by rivals to such an extent. The EC ruled that seven fares charged by Lufthansa, Alitalia and Iberia could not be used as the basis of future "price increases. Most of these flights were also to British airports."

General Motors improves but still remains in the red

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK

GENERAL Motors, the world's largest car maker and owner of Vauxhall and Opel, remained in the red in the second quarter of this year, but put in its best quarterly performance since 1991.

Depressing profits was a \$749 million special charge to pay for 9,000 job cuts at its electronics division that pushed second quarter losses to \$357 million, against a loss of \$784 million for the same period a year ago.

Without that special charge GM continued in the black with a \$392 million profit, up from an \$808 million loss last year and double the profits made in the first half.

But Mr Robert Stempel, GM's chairman, said: "Sustaining the rate of progress we experienced in the first half of this year, however, appears to

be extremely challenging." He said the second half of the year could prove difficult in view of uncertainties related to the pace of the northern American economic recovery and a slowdown in some key European markets.

Last year GM lost almost \$10 billion on its American car operations, but has seen a 5 per cent rise in American vehicle sales and a 1 per cent increase in second quarter market share to 36.9 per cent.

Worldwide car and truck sales climbed 6 per cent to just over two million but overseas car and truck sales fell 3 per cent to 670,500.

Without special redundancy charges, profits for the half year came out at \$572 million against a \$218 million loss on total revenue, 11 per cent higher at \$67.2 billion. The

electronic division's special charge pushed GM into the red by \$217 million compared with half-time losses of \$928 million last year.

But the figures disappointed Wall Street, which marked GM's shares down 75 cents to \$38.375 after executives indicated there would be no further plant closures planned for this year.

Jack Kirman, Salomon Bros' automotive analyst, downgraded his outlook on GM and cut his 1992 estimates to break even from a previous estimate of \$1.25 a share. Mr Kirman also cut his 1993 estimate on GM to a profit of \$3.50 a share from a previous estimate of about \$5 a share. Softer European sales could exacerbate GM's problems in North America, Mr Kirman said.

Milken is talk of Wall Street

LEGAL experts here are speculating that more cases of Wall Street white collar crime will emerge after the massive reduction in the jail sentence of Michael Milken, the former American junk bond king.

They argue that his known co-operation with the authorities never merited a cut in his sentence from ten to two years, and indicates he has been of more assistance behind closed doors than he was as a witness for the prosecution.

Milken will serve only two years of the ten-year jail sentence he was given after admitting to six criminal charges of securities fraud. He has already served 17 months in prison, which means he will be freed by next March and eligible for home visits next month.

A senior law professor at Columbia University said: "I don't think we are aware of all the co-operation Michael Milken has given in the light of the judge's decision." Politicians have called the reduction "outrageous" saying that it sends "exactly the wrong signal to Wall Street."

The Securities and Exchange Commission described Milken's co-operation as of no concrete value and Rudolph Giuliani, the former attorney who prosecuted Milken said the reduction was "a mistake".

The commuted sentence is believed to have surprised even Milken's lawyers. But Judge Kimba Wood said because co-operation in ongoing criminal investigations was so important to society, it was a consideration which played a key role in her decision. She added: "By embracing a wider set of considerations, the system provides incentives for defendants to assist society in general, victims of crimes and other inmates themselves."

Milken, who once controlled the \$300 billion market in junk bonds, became the centre of the biggest white collar crime story of the eighties. Last June, he became a government witness, testifying against a colleague at his former employers, Drexel Burnham Lambert.

Philips issues loss warning as first-half income slumps

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

PHILIPS, the Dutch consumer electronics group, gave warning of a likely fall in profits this year, despite improved income from core businesses during the first half.

The company said it was "unlikely that sales and net income from normal business operations will reach the level achieved in 1991," unless economic trends improved and problems in the consumer electronics industry ended.

The group unveiled a slump in net income for the half year to end-June to 256 million guilders (£79.3 million) on near-static sales of £125.8 billion. Last year, Philips made £168.7 million.

The net income figures disguise a modest improvement in profitability at the operating level. But the second quarter results seem to suggest the economic slowdown has hampered Philips just as the benefits of last year's restructuring were beginning to feed

through. Consumer electronics and components remain the biggest problem. Grundig, the German associate, and MEC, its joint venture with Matsushita of Japan in components, had an especially poor first half.

They suffered from the weaker German economy and reduced output from television manufacturers in Europe and Brazil.

Lighting remains the best performer, with a good surge in the first quarter. Polygram, the recorded music company, improved, as did domestic appliances and personal care products. Medical systems and industrial products also picked up a little.

But operating profit margins remain below 5 per cent overall. With selling prices falling, and most of the benefits from rationalisation realised, analysts say the company may well record a loss in the third quarter. Philips has

some promising consumer products in the pipeline, but picking winners that will appeal to fickle tastes is not easy, especially when consumers are reluctant to spend.

Directors yesterday played down the impact of the European Community failing to release the subsidies needed by television companies to introduce high definition television.

Digital cassettes, at least, do not depend upon a costly extraneous infrastructure for their implementation, but their launch has been postponed until the autumn.

That is likely to be followed by compact disc interactive, which has great potential as a home learning and games device. However, the novelty of the concept, allied with the usual wrangles over standards, mean it may be some time before they are in the shops and helping to halt the pressure on profits.

Lloyd's agrees Morse timetable

By JONATHAN EVYNN

THE Morse report recommendations on changes to the structure of the governing bodies of Lloyd's are to be phased in by January 1 1995, the Council of Lloyd's has agreed.

The Morse report, drawn up by a committee chaired by Sir Jeremy Morse, the chairman of Lloyd's Bank and a member of the Council of Lloyd's, proposed a division of the regulatory and the market operating functions of the current council. Under the Morse recommendations, two small boards responsible for these functions would report to a streamlined council of 14 members compared with the current 28.

The Morse report was commissioned in the wake of the controversy over the rejection by David Coleridge, the chairman of Lloyd's, and Alan Lord, the former chief executive, of proposals on market governance made in the Rowland Task Force report.

Lloyd's confirmed yesterday that the Morse recommendations would be phased in over the next two-and-a-half years with the size of the council reducing to 21 next year, 17 in January 1994 and 16 by January 1995. The two new boards will be operational from January 1 next year.

Lloyd's has slightly amended the Morse recommendations in that the Chief Executive Officer and the head of regulation will be full members of the council. Morse had envisaged a council of 14 with the CEO and head of regulations present at meetings only as observers.

Andrew Duiguid, head of market services at Lloyd's, said the modification had been made so that the role of the chief executive, which has encompassed both the CEO and regulatory functions, would not be downgraded.

In another tweak to the Morse proposals, the council is to have the discretion to make up to two further appointments to the two boards.

Lloyd's also gave details of the disclosure requirements for future members of the council and the new boards. The requirements are based on those applying to directors of public companies under the 1985 Companies Act.

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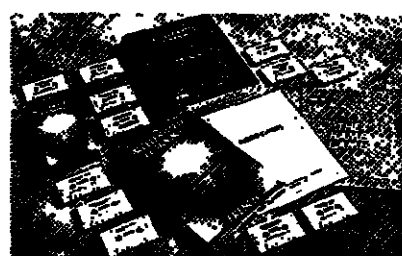
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IBM set to announce \$7bn PC division

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK

INTERNATIONAL Business Machines (IBM) is believed to be set to announce the formation of a new personal computer division, which would have sales of \$7 billion and rank as the world's largest.

The move would be the first tangible evidence of IBM's strategy to form itself into six smaller parts that could respond much more rapidly to changes in the market place.

Shares of IBM, whose chairman is John Akers, were down again yesterday at \$90, off more than \$4 in two days after executives forecast little



Akers: new division

or no growth this year in its core business—mainframe computers. One analyst cut his forecast for IBM's full year

profit figures by 15 per cent. IBM will cut at least 32,000 staff this year bringing the total dismissed since 1986 to 92,000.

A separate PC division would streamline all business functions under one group. Its personal computers are currently developed and made by IBM, but marketing decisions are handled on a geographical basis and distribution by a separate part of IBM.

The company will not comment on the plan, but industry sources say James Cannavino, head of personal systems, got the go-ahead to reform the division some time ago and is expected to disclose details

within the next two weeks. Analysts are uncertain just what profit prospects would be for a separate PC division amid the most fierce price war in PC history.

It is understood that IBM has plans to float shares of the division on Wall Street after three years.

Fresh doubts over the company's profit prospects emerged last month despite a surge in earnings for April, May and June from \$126 million to \$714 million. Gross profits from its hardware sales, which account for half IBM's revenue, actually fell and the company said job cuts would cost it a further \$1.2 billion.

Anglian Group Sp (210)	214	+3
Stirley (100)	96	-
Brandsome Inv Trust (100)	101	-
Dartmoor Inv Tr Warrants 7	101	-
Dwyer A	19	-
Euro Smir Co Ots (500)	475	-
Finbury Smir Ots	145	-
HSBC HICo (35)	357	-
Henderson Eurotrust Ord 62	92	-
do Eurotrust Units	92	-
do Eurotrust Zeta Pts	294	-
Kerwood App (285)	284	-

Kirwatt Endt Pkly (100)	101	-
MFI Furniture (115)	115	-2
Quality Care Inns (130)	130	-
Trautman Elder Inv (140)	140	-
Telegraph (325)	284	-1
Vega Group (122)	130	-

RIGHTS ISSUES		
Stirley n/p (100)	96	-
Cavendish n/p (10)	4	-
Hobson n/p (5)	4	-
Jayes Group Sp n/p (385)	43	-
Kode Intl n/p (100)	8	-

RISES:		
Barclays	334p (+10p)	
Eys (Wimbor)	670p (+10p)	
BOC	601p (+17p)	
Liberty Life	841p (+20p)	
FALLS:		
Daerjan	615p (-15p)	
Lagat & General	313p (-12p)	
Com Union	436p (-11p)	
Weir	436p (-16p)	
Bank Org	564p (-18p)	
ADT	428p (-12p)	

Watson & Phil	240p (-15p)
Cedbury-Schweppe	467p (-10p)
THORN EMI	711p (-32p)
Standard Chart	410p (-10p)
Greene King	445p (-78p)
MJ Gleeson	640p (-18p)
Dunhill	386p (-10p)
J Menzies	350p (-15p)
Cable Wireless	524p (-16p)
Mitel	105p (-12p)

Closing Prices Page 21

Barclays rues its days of optimism

Something has gone horribly wrong when one of the world's leading banks is barely profitable. Until yesterday Barclays seemed to be riding out the recession with relative ease. The bank's size, retail strength and financial power suggested it could withstand the bad debt provisions sweeping the industry and still produce profits to maintain its dividend and fund future growth. That cosy assumption was joined in the first half of this year when Barclays' lame ducks came home to roost. A succession of big property groups, like Olympia & York, Mountleigh and Heron, collapsed or begged for mercy from their creditors, and Barclays was always there to pick up a bill.

Andrew Buxton, who steps up from managing director to the chairmanship in the new year, blames the £1.07 billion bad debt provision on the recession. The excuse does not entirely hold water, since provisions at Lloyds and Midland are already falling. He would do better to consider the bank's lending policy. In the late eighties, Barclays was still expanding its property lending, while others already had severe misgivings about their exposure. Barclays was happy to do business with the largest and apparently secure developers and used the proceeds of a £923 million rights issue in 1988 to fund aggressive expansion of its loan book.

Barclays' directors may not have seen it that way, but they took a gamble on the future of the economy. They bet the bank that the recession would be short enough and shallow enough for the large property businesses to trade through. Their error is written large across yesterday's interim figures, which show that £200 million has been needed to plug the hole left by just five borrowers. Mr Buxton has promised to improve credit quality and risk management, but the changes will take time to work through. There will be more explosions in Barclays' balance sheet before the recession is through.

Barclays' bottom line blues did not, however, unnerve the City, where the strong growth in operating profits was taken as evidence that the bank would maintain its dividend. Sir John Quinton, the outgoing chairman, remains non-committal. The recession has too long to run and many of the bank's customers are too close to the brink for him to be more reassuring.

Professional fouls

Chartered accountants are taking another step in their long road from being merely professional bodies to becoming modern regulators. The English institute has finally proposed that firms of accountants rather than just individual members can be subject to discipline over alleged breaches of professional conduct rules. In an industry now dominated by a few big firms with at least some central management, this is long overdue. It is not entirely new. For the past couple of years, firms can, and have, been fined heavily in high profile public interest cases — often arising from criticism from trade department inspectors — that are dealt with in the profession's joint disciplinary system. They can also be liable where the institute has a statutory regulator's role, in investment business and, most recently, formal audits. Oddly, regulation of insolvency work rules out action against firms, since receivers and administrators are still theoretically appointed as individuals.

The joint disciplinary system is itself being shaken up. Reforms to speed actions through use of a prosecuting attorney are on their way. As the institute's own desultory hearings of the Jordan and Stone case shows, there is a long still a long way to go if justice is to be done expeditiously, and be seen to be done. Opening hearings to public scrutiny looks impractical for tribunals lacking full legal privilege and relying on informal help from other regulators. Reports of cases and reasons for judgments need to be more informative if complainants are not to suspect that big firms cover up for each other.

The ill-fated share-sale and rights issue of five years ago lie at the heart of the oil giant's present tribulations, writes George Sivell

How do you tell the difference between a Shell man and a BP man? The Shell man cannot find oil and the BP man cannot sell it. Much has happened to BP since that joke went the rounds in the seventies but yesterday's results highlight brutal differences in the running of Britain's big oil firms.

Shell has quietly assembled an enviable portfolio of assets around the world. BP has been hitting the headlines with alarming regularity for all the wrong reasons. The company has carried through a huge scaling-back of world operations, to compensate for the fall in oil prices, and a top-level management shake-up; there is also a heavy debt burden. Now, the first dividend cut since the 1967 six-day war has been announced.

One of Britain's more adventurous oil explorers commented last week that the stock market had become so tough on him and his peers that they were judged solely on dividend performance and not on their beloved assets. For the two majors, the dividend has always been important, representing a significant part of cash flow for many big investing institutions. In these straitened times, it is crucial to institutional cash flow.

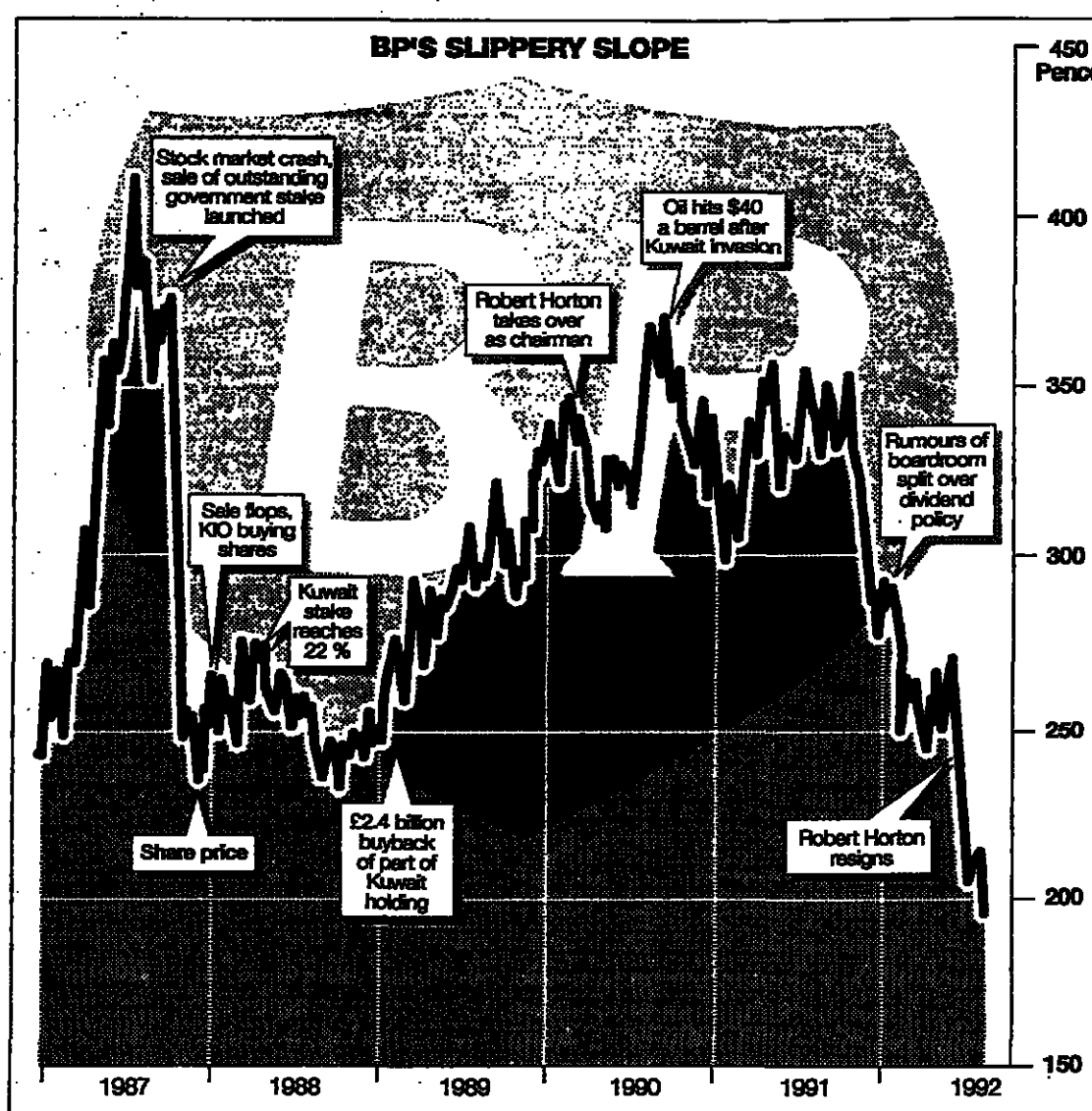
The BP board appreciates this only too well and yesterday went to some lengths to explain that the halving of its quarterly payout to 2.1p was part of a balancing act between various needs: to satisfy shareholders, to pay off debts, to maximise cash flow and to reduce capital expenditure — but not so much as to restrict replacement of spent oil reserves.

BP shares yesterday fell 10p to 196p. Assuming that the dividend continues at the quarterly level of 2.1p for the rest of the year, they will yield an income of 7.1 per cent, well ahead of Shell's expected 6.2 per cent. That is a measure of the risk the market attaches to holding BP shares.

The painful treatment that BP's new top team has accelerated has already had some effect on the diseases. The cash drain stemmed from a £544 million flood in the first quarter to £105 million in the second. The dividend cut will save £604 million over a full year, including £148 million of advance corporation tax.

From the moment Robert Horton resigned the chair on June 25, the market has speculated on a cut in dividends for the group's half a million shareholders and a hastening of rationalisation plans. BP shares had been generally weak since April 1991, when they reached 357p. At that point, the impact of the Gulf war was keeping oil prices above \$20 a barrel and cash flow relatively healthy. When Mr Horton went, they were 240p but have tumbled since.

BP paid an increased but uncovered dividend for 1991 against the background of a net cash outflow of £1.1 billion. Some institutional investors



were, apparently, disappointed that the dividend increase had not matched inflation, as Mr Horton had hoped it would. When the full-year results were announced, BP described the quarterly dividend as a flexible signalling process. The dividend would be cut only in the event of force majeure, the City was told. Yesterday, David Simon, the chief executive, said force majeure had indeed occurred. "None of us expected external market circumstances to continue as long, or be as hard, as they have been," he said. Asked whether Mr Horton was to carry the can for this, Lord Ashburton, the replacement chairman, said that "the can remains with the board...there is no intention he should carry it". Mr Horton conceded at the full year that there had been a debate over cutting the dividend but denied it had been a decision. Yesterday, Lord Ashburton, a long standing non-executive director at BP, said Mr Horton's departure had been because of management style, not dividend policy. It was indicated that the rationalisation was a speeding up of previous plans, not something started after Mr Horton left.

BP has traditionally been more exposed than Shell to the vagaries of the oil price, another crucial link with the Horton departure. From taking over the chairmanship in March 1990, Mr Horton believed, in an oil price of \$25 a barrel for the mid-1990s. He expressed this faith strongly in public

BP toned this forecast down to between \$18 and \$21 a barrel after his resignation. Yesterday, Mr Simon said the company was basing its sums on a conservative \$18 a barrel. Shell, on the other hand, has stuck to a forecast of \$18 a barrel throughout. This difference of view over future oil prices was highly significant for policy. Under Mr Horton, BP sold safe but unexciting producing assets and invested heavily in exploration and development in new oil areas, where a high oil price could raise potential rewards to match risk.

Exploration is to be contracted and marketing and costs cut, in line with oil prices much lower than the company had forecast

Shell's inveterate caution enabled it to generate a modest 4 per cent rise in net income, to £1.43 billion, during the first half of this year. Shell also managed to generate cash of £479 million over the half year, though that was well down from last year's first half of £885 million. The proportion of debt to shareholders' funds rose by just 1 per cent to 19 per cent. BP's comparable figure is 87 per cent at the moment, with 90 per cent in sight by the end of the year, before the cuts begin to bite.

Having taken a more buoyant and adventurous line, BP is now having

to slam the brakes on. Over the next two years, there will be a tight contraction of exploration activity, heavy cuts in marketing operations and steep cuts in costs to suit an oil price much lower than that predicted internally. Exceptional charges of £1.02 billion will be spent on 11,500 redundancies and on asset writedowns. Redundancies will cost £472 million and £544 million will be spent on asset writedowns.

In the exploration and production divisions, £49 million will go on redundancy programmes in Britain and America and £126 million on writing off the values of North Sea oil rigs now deemed surplus to requirements and leases unlikely to be drilled.

Among refining and marketing interests, £244 million will be spent on redundancies, reflecting huge restructuring in Europe and America. About £107 million has been set aside to cover expected disposals in America. In chemicals, £64 million is to be spent on redundancies and £121 million to cover the writedown of American assets.

The cost reduction programme, which aims to save £400 million of annual running costs by 1994, is Mr Horton's. Capital expenditure is to be cut to \$5 billion in 1993 and 1994 from \$6.5 billion now and \$8 billion in 1991, again no change on what Mr Horton predicted for 1992.

The new team of Lord Ashburton and David Simon will, in addition,

take more drastic steps to improve the group's balance sheet. Mr Simon, the much more cautious new chief executive, has made it clear he will accelerate BP's debt reduction programme by cutting capital spending and disposing of assets. He also took some pains to deny that BP was planning another rights issue.

BP now has \$16 billion of debt and the figure could rise to \$17 billion by the year-end. This was described yesterday as being as the prudent limit. The aim is to reduce debts by \$1 billion a year. Annualised cost savings of \$1 billion a year are to be sought.

The disposal programme for this year and 1993 will aim to raise between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion from the marketing, chemicals and nutrition divisions. This had been foreshadowed already. Mr Simon said BP had taken in \$650 million from disposals so far this year and was in negotiations that could see the target safely met.

BP stated a target replacement cost net income, after stripping out oil stock profits or losses, of \$2 billion a year, enough to cover the newly diminished dividend two or three times. The company thinks it will start to generate cash again some time during 1993 and will show cash inflow for the year as a whole.

The tax position has been weakened by North Sea disposals. BP recently even tried to save £150 million of advance corporation tax by asking the government if it would be possible to offer shareholders shares in Britoil, taken over for £2.5 billion in 1988. Britoil had tax losses to offset against ACT; BP does not.

Many of BP's debt and cash-flow problems can be traced back to the £2.4 billion buy-back of shares from Kuwait. In the wake of the disastrous government share sale of 1987, which the Treasury insisted on pursuing just after the stock market crash, Kuwait snapped up a 22 per cent stake in BP that City underwriters were only too glad to sell. The oil company had made a rights issue at the same time as the state share sale. The government, bolstered by the monopolies commission, insisted that the Kuwaiti stake be cut.

BP ended up buying part of it in January 1989 for £2.4 billion, reducing the stake from 21.6 per cent to the 9.9 per cent allowed and giving the Kuwait Investment Office a £350 million profit for its pains. Although BP said it covered the purchase with the sale of BP minerals to RTZ for a similar sum, the reduction of share capital was greater than the assets sold. Gearing rose from 37 per cent to 42 per cent of debt over debt plus equity, against a target of 30 per cent at the time.

In truth, BP was in no position to mount such an ambitious deal. It had recently spent £2.5 billion to take over Britoil and \$7.8 billion to buy the 45 per cent minority shareholdings in Standard Oil of Ohio, its American arm.

Prior to the Gulf war, the British government had reckoned that, since Kuwait was an Opec member with huge oil reserves, its interests collided with those of BP. In the wake of that war, BP is, in a modest way, helping Kuwait to rebuild its shattered fortunes and will soon send 15 or 20 engineers to Kuwait.

Its own shattered fortunes must also be rebuilt, like Kuwait's.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

A unique oyster source

THE start of the oyster season on September 1 will provide an unusual publicity opening for the City airport. For the first time, native English oysters will be flown by Cross Air from the airport to Zurich for the prestigious first-day-of-the-season lunch at the Hummer oyster bar. The oysters are from Poole in Dorset and, as the only oysters being especially flown in, *les Dorsets d'Angleterre*, as they are being called, have won star billing on the menu, supplanting even the gourmet *fin de belon*. David Davies, who runs Sea Harvest in Poole, the company providing the oysters, says Dorset is fast replacing Whitstable and Colchester as the centre for UK oysters and claims the flavour is "second to none". He will accompany them on their journey. "I'll be taking them out of our tanks on the morning of August 31 and catching a plane at 10am. They will be on the table within 36 hours," he says. He is keen to gain markets in Europe, and from September will fly oysters from the City airport to Zurich every week for five months.

"WE'RE living through the worst recession in manufacturing industry for 50 years...it's very tough for us all." Thus John Quinton — not,



however, Sir John Quinton, chairman of Barclays, who yesterday reported his bank's terrible half-year results, but plain John Quinton, senior general manager of Barclays, almost exactly ten years ago as reported in *The Times* on August 6, 1982. Plus ça change!

Not fair enough

THE insurance salesman who cold-called an Office of Fair Trading press officer and tried to persuade her to invest took more than he realised this week. The OFT last month published two independent and very critical reports on the way such investments are sold and is seeking views on how much information about com-

mission and company expenses should be given to investors. Any personal experience of sales techniques will no doubt be put to good use.

Tusk, tusk

NOBODY should be under any illusions that Robin Woodhead, the new chief executive of London Fox, the troubled futures and options exchange, is just another grey City broker. The announcement of his appointment this week has prompted memories of his elephant-hunting days, which have earned him a reputation for an adventurous streak. Woodhead, 42, attracted the attention of the *City Diary* two summers ago when he was attacked by a rogue elephant in the Chobe game reserve in Botswana. He was travelling with two friends in a Land Rover when the elephant charged out of the bush and rammed the vehicle, knocking it over and snapping a tusk in its rage. The ordeal left Woodhead, who spent part of his childhood in Rhodesia, nursing cuts and bruises — and with a three-foot tusk to show for it. Since stepping down last year as chief executive of National Investment Group, a network of regional stockbrokers, he has been travelling in America, Africa and the South Pacific. Barring further incidents, he takes up his new post in October.

DEBRA ISAAC

CASTING DOUBT ON LLOYD'S AUTHORITY FOR SPECIAL LEVY

From C.J.F. SOKOL
Sir, In Comment (July 28) you state that the ruling council of Lloyd's has by-law authority to proceed with the special levy whatever the outcome of the voting — with great respect, it is far from clear that is the case.

There is no doubt that the council may:
(i) maintain a central fund and levy from members' annual and/or additional contributions for this purpose (it may also borrow);
(ii) spend central fund monies on:
(a) making good or reducing the extent of or prevent a member's default on a Lloyd's policy;
(b) any other purpose expedient for the advancement and protection of the members in connection with the business carried on by them as such.

It is axiomatic that the council is empowered to levy

contributions under (i) only if and to the extent that they are to be used for a purpose falling within (ii).

It has never been suggested by the powers that be that the levy monies are to be used solely for a purpose falling within (ii)(a), still less has there been any arithmetical correlation between the amount to be levied and the excess of valid (ii)(a) claims over the existing central fund (on the contrary, in his letter of June 5, 1992, the chairman wrote that the purpose of the levy was to send "a reassuring signal to policyholders").

It follows that if the levy is properly exigible it must fall within (ii)(b). "The members" means in the present context "the members for the time being". It is extremely difficult to see how it is expedient for the advancement and protection of the present members' underwrit-

ing business that a very substantial surcharge be levied from them which is likely to be used or used extensively to assist persons who (i) are not at present members of the society, and (ii) who will not themselves have made contributions to it.

In many cases that assistance may be provided after the contributor has ceased to be a member or to underwrite. An increase in the central fund subscription in the way (from existing members only) and for the purpose (to create a future slush fund rather than making good, preventing or reducing ascertained or quantifiable defaults) proposed is *prima facie* improper and the onus is now on the Lloyd's council to provide a legal justification.

Yours faithfully,
C.J.F. SOKOL
24 Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

ICI AND MIDLAND SHOULD SPARE US THEIR ECONOMIC NOSTRUMS

From Mr Jonathan Veale
Sir, At last, an economic miracle — with biological overtones. ICI is to cut itself in half and become two dynamic worms, replacing the lethargic one we have known so long.

And the segments' old "brain" has a message for the beleaguered Chancellor: devalue our currency and British industry and ICI will conquer world markets afresh.

Total bunkum.

Step forward Midland Bank still a limless invertebrate, but flush with success, having only written off a mere £330 million of discovered bad

debt. Its message: cut interest rates by 3 per cent, reduce the habit of saving and spend, spend our way back to prosperity. More absurd bunkum.

If these gentlemen genuinely reflect the views of the boards they represent in believing the solution to our problems is so simple, their shareholders should immediately be sent an official health warning: Investing here can damage your pocket — heavy losses imminent.

ICI and the Midland Bank might better serve their shareholders' interests by re-examining the efficacy of their own

range of products and services over which they have more direct control and, dare I say it, adjust their prices downwards to excite the consumers' interest, rather than join the chorus of bleatings coming from their fellow travellers and tame and neutered economists who are trying to convince us it's all down to the beastly Huns.

Anyone for tennis, or perhaps bowls?
Yours etc,
JONATHAN VEALE,
14 Laureol Crescent, Thornhill, Cardiff.

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Wise words given to businesswomen

By BRIAN COLLETT

A FREE service to help women who are going into business for the first time, as well as returners, has been started by the Norwich Enterprise Agency Trust (Neat).

The first programme of the initiative, called Women into Self-Employment, or Wise, has more than 40 training sessions and events, including business planning, bookkeeping and marketing workshops. It will run until next March.

Funding of £25,000 has come from BT, the Rural Development Commission and the Norfolk and Waveney Training and Enterprise Council. National Westminster Bank has provided the organiser, Christine Brearley, a returner who previously handled small business lending in central London NatWest branches.

The trust, which was formed in 1981 to give free advice to new businesses, is solving one problem for women by holding sessions during school hours and offering child care. Jane Bradford, chief of NatWest's small business services, says: "Returners want to feel there is recognition of their circumstances."

Although the help is being geared to women's needs, Mrs Bradford points out: "Women are not looking for special treatment. They do not want to be patronised."

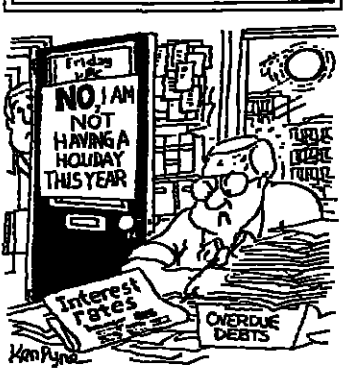
Women run 25 per cent of existing small businesses but 33 per cent of new businesses are now

started by women. About 30 per cent of the trust's clients are female. Some women start businesses in areas where they have little experience. Mrs Bradford says: "This can work in women's favour. They are more prepared to plan in detail, hence the importance of the training. From our viewpoint, because they have thought things out, their businesses tend to be more stable and have a better chance of survival. The bank does not want to miss this part of the business market."

Among other issues, Wise will tackle fear of dealing with banks. Even if they do not fear banks, many women have restricted access to capital and the programme will look for the most suitable funding sources.

□ Near-Wise: 0603 613023.

MR FRIDAY



Taking the labour out of love

By RODNEY HOBSON

A LABOUR of love gave Linda Magistis the idea for her own business. She had a wonderful wedding last September, which was hardly surprising given the amount of work she put into it.

She says: "I spent months and months on the telephone, trying to find what I wanted. I listened to 20 pianists and visited 30 caterers. I heard I don't know how many bands. I saw the worst wedding cars in the world."

Research for her own wedding convinced Mrs Magistis that there was an enormous gap to be filled by a consultant willing to organise other people's nuptials.

"It takes an enormous amount of time and effort if you want something a bit different. Although people generally like to stick to tradition at a wedding, they still want it to be special."

Weddings are becoming bigger, she says, and a £7,000 affair is not unusual. Couples are taking greater control over their special day, often paying the expenses themselves, with a meal during the day and a disco at night. Some start married life with an overdraft after paying for the celebrations. The bride's parents are no longer expected to foot the bill and the best man's role is often kept to speech-maker.

From her flat in Chelsea, Mrs Magistis does the organising for couples who are often both working and do not have the time or the contacts to make the arrangements. "I discovered where to get this car, that cake. I use the services of people who have been in the



Finishing touches: Linda Magistis, a wedding consultant, advising Ann Castle before the big day

business for years or whom I have known previously, so I can guarantee a quality service. If a client suggests a company, I know whether it is good or bad because I have been there. I guarantee everything except the weather."

Potential clients have told her plenty of horror stories: a discotheque turning up three hours late, a caterer serving half-frozen food and wedding cars with holes in the roof. The weddings she helps to arrange cut across all religions and

receptions can range from an intimate dinner at a local restaurant to 500 guests at the Dorchester.

"Every wedding is a different occasion and it should be. It depends who walks through the door and what they want. Big, romantic weddings have come back, but there are wacky ones, too. The idea of themed parties has spilled over into weddings. I have seen a bride arrive in a helicopter and depart in a helicopter."

Mrs Magistis charges a percent-

age of the cost of the services hired, but she says: "It costs no more than a couple would spend trying to find what they wanted and often setting for second best. People say they can't believe how brave I am taking on the bride's mother but I am extremely well organised and calm."

"Obviously, the whole family is going to get uptight and it is my job to relax them completely. That is what I am there for, to make it an enjoyable time."

Smaller businesses have turned increasingly to factoring as an alternative to raising cash from cautious banks, according to the Association of British Factors and Discounters.

Financing by factoring companies, which put up cash against a business's invoices, reached £7.52 billion in the six months to June this year, up 10 per cent on the first six months of 1991.

Alan Hughes, the association's chairman, said: "Companies are now seeking alternative ways of funding working capital." He maintains factors offer more flexible financing than banks because of the direct link with current sales through invoices.

□ A national network of "one-stop shops" to supply businesses with information and services at the local level has moved a step nearer. Whitehall has set up a steering group to push through the initiative, announced by Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary. The first aim will be "pilots" in several parts of Britain.

□ The growing popularity of employee share ownership plans, which offer a tax-efficient way for employees to secure an equity stake in a private business, has led to the formation of a European Centre for Employee Ownership. It is aimed at expanding the movement throughout the EC and forging close links with America's national centre for employee ownership, pioneer of the ESOP movement.

EDITOR DEREK HARRIS

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INFOTECH TIMES

Bosses learn to handle disaster

Chris Partridge describes a computer system that simulates emergencies and trains executives to keep their heads

A computer system that rehearses the worst industrial accidents that can happen to a company, to train the board in coping with disaster, has been developed by a firm of psychologists.

While a company's board and senior managers struggle to cope with the disaster presented on the screen, the computer reacts to their actions and their statements to the media, just as the outside world might, from causing a slump in the share price to writing powerful leaders criticising the company.

A disaster on the scale of the explosion at Bhopal or the oil spillage from the Exxon Valdez occurs only very rarely, but when it does, a company's senior executives are often so badly prepared that their efforts to handle the problem can actually make it worse.

As a result, the whole future of a company can be endangered, according to Dr Steve Blinkhorn, the managing director of Psychometric Research and Development, of St Albans, Hertfordshire, the company that has devised the system. Increasingly, companies handling high-risk substances, mainly in the petrochemical industry, are putting their directors and top management through regular training programmes to teach them how to cope if the worst should suddenly happen. Usually this is done by professional trainers using actors in the roles of employees, government officials and journalists.

These sessions are expensive and, some critics would say, they may not be very realistic. The new system, called Crises, uses nothing more complex than a personal computer with a simple speech synthesis system, but the disasters it presents at the training sessions are highly realistic, Dr Blinkhorn says. "This is mainly because months of research have



The real thing: beaches are sprayed after the Exxon oil spill. The computer system brings such a problem into the training room

gone into making the emergency credible. When the members of a company's crisis control committee go into a training session, the computer kicks off the process with a "telephone call" assembled from various standard phrases held in the computer memory and vocalised by the speech synthesis system.

service" giving all the news from Reuters and AP. The scale of the catastrophe only gradually becomes clear. The tanker train has caught fire in a tunnel, toxic fumes have belched out of a ventilation shaft over a nearby village, killing more than 20 people. The area is being evacuated. For the crisis committee, the sky is falling in. The "fax" is hot with messages from journalists demanding information about the disaster and details of what action the company is taking. The authorities also need

information and the employees on the ground need some back-up. Then the computer starts generating "news bulletins", including printed press reports and television news using graphics on screen.

This is where the power of the system becomes apparent, for the previous actions of the trainees have an obvious effect on what the newspapers and broadcasting me-

dia are saying. If the committee decides not to react to press questions at all, the company will be portrayed as an uncaring, profit-obsessed monster deliberately taking chances with the lives of the public to minimise costs. If the committee has issued statements, these may be used against it, quoted out of context and even distorted.

Crises was developed by Psychometric Research and Development for one of the world's leading makers of PVC. Although PVC is one of the safest materials available today, some of the ingredients that go into it are explosive and toxic, and can generate the deadly poison gas phosgene if burnt in a certain way.

The simulation is effective, chiefly because the technical basis is sound, Dr Blinkhorn says. The team spent months interviewing engineers, at the client company, and also at British Rail, Cleveland fire service and many other organ-

isations with wide experience of handling emergencies. Pictures of the client's chemical works were scanned into the computer, as were photographs of real train crashes and chemical fires. All these were combined using computer graphics to create pictures of what a client's factory might look like after an

explosion — pictures that can appear as part of a television newscast, also computer-generated. The software's ability to change and develop the situation in response to the trainees' actions is provided by modules called agents that can alter the parameters of the main program. One agent, for example, keeps tabs on the death toll, increasing or decreasing the

count in response to the situation, or just randomly. The idea is that this adds to the realism and brings home to the team the importance of good record-keeping.

Agents are also responsible for generating the text of newspaper articles and television broadcasts. Using a specially developed language called Scirocco, they take the computer code and add the rules of English grammar and ordinary text. Psychometric Research and Development has also developed a language called Mistral for creating multimedia programs, combining computer graphics, audio, video and other media, so that simulations can use the most effective media available.

The PVC disaster cost a "five-figure" sum, Dr Blinkhorn says, however, that this cost was minimal as the client originally wanted a system based on interactive video discs, and this would have cost ten times as much to make.

The computer looks at the team's actions and reacts just as the outside world might

More than 20 people are dead. For the crisis committee, the sky is falling in

Chatlines feel the pinch

Operators of dial-up information services are seeking new ways of attracting callers

Dial-up information services — those premium rate telephone numbers typified by an 0898 prefix — have suffered an image problem almost from the outset.

Sedlines, racing tip lines and even share price information lines never managed to appear really "proper". Now the industry wants to be able to provide telephone numbers that are even more expensive to try to boost flagging revenues.

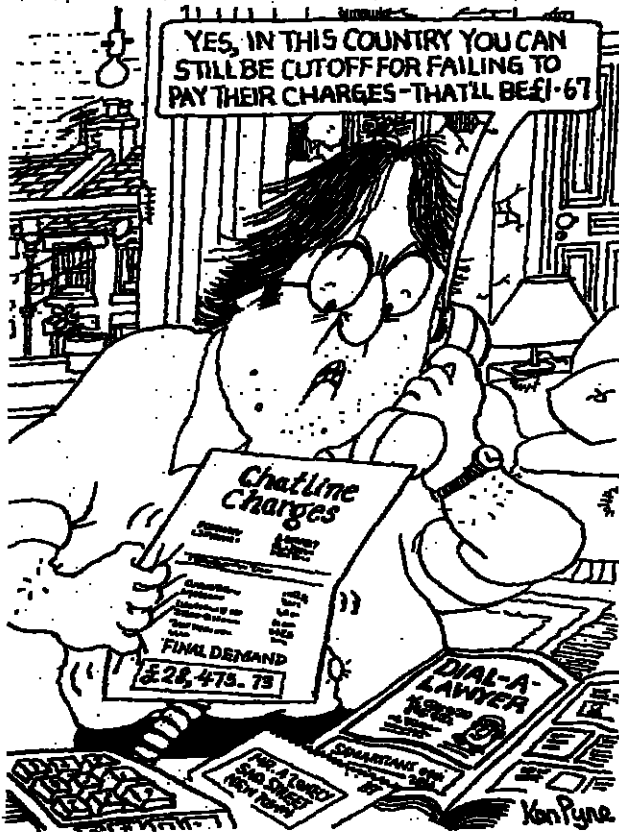
Premium rate telephone numbers, which were introduced into Britain in 1986, have been worth up to £150 million in revenues a year. But in the past couple of years the sector's growth has begun to falter.

"We are entering a period of consolidation," says John Symes, sales and marketing director of Telsis, a Fareham-based company which sells the machinery for about a third of the 30,000 or so premium rate lines in use in the UK.

The more down-market entertainment services have been the ones to suffer most. The result is an industry that is looking to ditch its image of "anything for a buck" and to replace it with one of being a provider of an "innovative new high-tech medium".

The move has been hastened by the prospect of official pressure. The freedom of those offering chatlines in the UK, for example, has already been curtailed and many believe that the same may happen to operators of some other services.

In America, for example, new regulations which took effect last December mean that telephone companies can no longer cut off a subscriber's line for failing to pay charges on premium lines. That makes it virtually impossible for service operators to collect money



if the subscriber disputes the charges. Partly as a result, the share of premium-number revenues accounted for by adult entertainment is estimated to have shrunk significantly in the US.

In the UK too, revenues from adult entertainment services, while still accounting for a higher proportion than in the US, are thought to have halved over the past two years and many in the industry believe that they will fall

further. The way that the industry is considering cleaning up its image, and increase revenues at the same time, is by the use of new technologies and international services.

The sector wants to be able to follow the lead of the US, where a bewildering array of information and entertainment is becoming accessible through "pay-per-call" exchanges at prices that range from 50 cents (26p) a minute to \$5 (£2.60) a minute.

These services include instant advice from a doctor or lawyer, each at \$3 (£1.67) a minute, or news, stock quotes and weather report from the Wall Street Journal which charges 95 cents (52p) a minute.

One area of growth in the UK is audiofax, where fax machines are used to access printed information. A pioneer of audiofax in the UK has been D15 Information Services, based in Warminster,

Wiltshire. The company sells fax-based information services ranging from the Central Statistical Office's information on the retail price index and other economic data to weather charts for pilots and yachtsmen.

The user dials the number of the fax information service required and the machine automatically downloads the required information to his or her fax. The call is charged at the usual British premium rate — 36 pence a minute off peak, 48 pence a minute at all other times. "It's just another way of publishing information," Jeremy Thomas, D15 co-founder and director, says.

In the US, audiofax services are more advanced and range from shortened versions of daily newspapers to airplane departure times. But in the US operators can set a wide variety of prices allowing some services to be charged at \$5 (£2.60) and more a minute.

The price ceiling in the UK has been one which the premium number industry has been lobbying to change for some time now. Another target for lobbying has been the creation of a potential pan-European market for some services.

The UK market still leads Europe in the premium number field, accounting for between 50 and 60 per cent of the overall European market.

As well as the UK, however, Ireland, Belgium, Finland, Holland, Norway and Sweden have liberalised the sector. Germany, Italy and Spain also look as though they will soon open their markets.

The main problem is that different rules apply in every European country. The European Commission is trying to harmonise the conditions for premium rate numbers throughout member countries.

If successful it believes it can create a market which could be worth over £5 billion by the second half of the decade.

In the meantime, however, the trade is placing its faith in new technologies. As well as audiofax, interactive services, where users can choose the information they want by pressing the numbers on their touchtone phones, are becoming more common.

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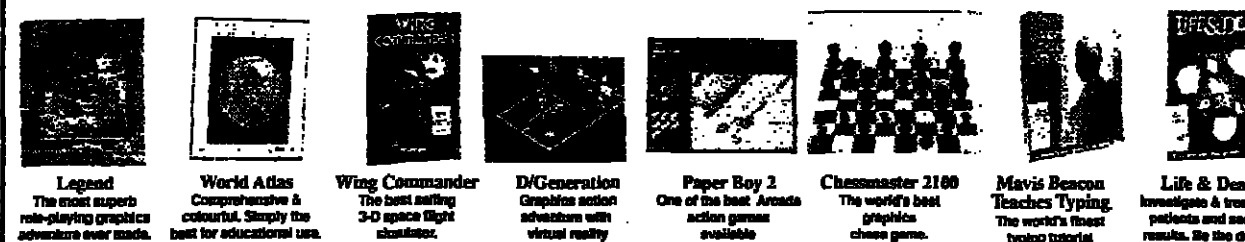
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AST COMPUTER

King Paris can reign supreme

MICHAEL Bell is enjoying a purple patch at present and I am hopeful King Paris can increase the Newmarket trainer's tally by capturing the Tudor Gate Hotel and Restaurant Nursery at Newmarket this evening.

King Paris was a decisive winner of a similar event at the last Newmarket meeting, running on strongly to beat Mr Martini by a length with Marillette a further two-and-a-half lengths away third.

The John Gosden-trained Marillette has since paid the winner a compliment with a game victory at the big

MANDARIN

Goodwood meeting, so the form stands up well under scrutiny.

Although he has 8lb more to carry this time, King Paris won with a bit in hand that day, and is expected to carry on the good work at the expense of Mark Johnston's Mungie, who stayed on strongly to open his account at Pontefract.

The Middleham trainer should not leave the meeting empty-handed however, as his Take Your Partner has a good

chance of landing the Billingham Robinson Accountants Selling Stakes following a close-up third behind Allegria at Epsom.

The meeting can open with a victory for Reg Akehurst's Requested in the Headland International Properties Handicap.

Requested ran a gallant second to Gay Gilt in the Brown Jack Handicap at Ascot last month, with today's rival Karsk, who made the early running, five lengths further away fifth. The latter is marginally better off this time, but I expect Requested to

confirm the Ascot running.

There is a competitive field of sprinters for the Bernard Lloyd Associates Handicap, but So Rhythmic, who failed to overhaul Running Glipse by a head here last month, can gain a deserved success.

Haydock stages the other evening meeting and Peter Chapple-Hyam can get off to a flying start by claiming the opening event, the Hallowood Maiden Fillies Stakes, with Encore Une Foie.

The Manton filly showed plenty of promise earlier in the season when third behind Courtline Jester on this course.

David Wilson does well with his Epsom team and can collect the John Smith's Magnificent Handicap through Bodari, who missed out on a treble when narrowly beaten by Silca-Cisa and Saddlehome at Goodwood recently.

The Barbara Waring-trained Smilingstrangers is fancied to end the winning sequence of Brocture Grey in the Pat Phoenix Handicap.

At Wolverhampton, Peter Wahyn's Shamam, who shaped with promise at Newbury, can get the better of John Dunlop's Carlam in the Starfish Maiden Stakes.

Shikari's Son shines again

By JACK WATERMAN

FEW tracks are more favourable to the horses-for-courses than Brighton's sharp downhill switchback as Old Operatic Society used to prove time and time again. But it was odds-on to succeed in the £8,000 Sprint Handicap yesterday.

No fewer than six of the seven runners had already won here, and victory went to the 5-2 favourite, Shikari's Son, thus making his own Brighton record five wins in a row.

After Misdemeanours Girl had made the early running,

Plain Fact took it up briefly inside the final furlong, but Richard Quinn on Shikari's Son was almost upstides and had only to shake him up to lead in the last 50 yards and hold off Plain Fact by a neck.

John White, the winning trainer, said after the race that he preferred jumps to the flat (with the new National Hunt season barely a week old, he has already had two west country successes).

After yesterday White's opinion may at least be slightly amended for he completed a double when Treasure Time,

with Dale Gibson riding his hardest, made virtually all the running in the Edburton Handicap.

Earlier, John Reid and Richard Hannon continued where they left off on Wednesday, when Reid had achieved a personal best daily total of five winners.

Yesterday was the jockey's 37th birthday and the Marina Maiden Auction Stakes provided him with an appropriate cause for further celebration when the 11-10 joint favourite, After The Last, beat Perdition by two lengths.

REDCAR

MANDARIN

2.00 Palacegate Prince.
2.30 Nite Delta.
3.00 Bodari.
3.30 Smilingstrangers.
4.00 Palacegate Prince.
4.30 Eals.
5.00 Silverlocks.

THUNDERER

2.00 Palacegate Prince.
2.30 Nite Delta.
3.00 Hemsforth Lad.
3.30 Smilingstrangers.
4.00 Palacegate Prince.
4.30 The New Girl.
5.00 Silverlocks.

GOING: FIRM

DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

SIS

2.00

RED CAR SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O; £2,595; 6f) (10 runners)

1 (8) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
2 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
3 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
4 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
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9 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
10 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

FORM FOCUS

65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
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65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

2.30

ABC RADIO CLEVELAND HANDICAP (3-Y-O; £2,976; 1m) (4 runners)

1 (8) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
2 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
3 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
4 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

FORM FOCUS

65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

3.00

JOHN SMITH'S MAGNET HANDICAP (3-Y-O; £3,143; 5f) (7 runners)

1 (8) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
2 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
3 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
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7 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

FORM FOCUS

65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

3.30

PAT PHOENIX HANDICAP (£2,824; 2m 3f) (7 runners)

1 (8) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
2 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
3 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
4 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
5 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
6 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
7 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

FORM FOCUS

65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

WOLVERHAMPTON

MANDARIN

2.10 Shamam.
2.40 Big Pat.
3.10 Leap In The Dark.
3.40 Eriny.
4.10 Convenient Moment.
4.40 Zinbaq.

THUNDERER

2.10 Shamam.
2.40 Blushing Belle.
3.10 Pride Of Britain.
3.40 Deewee.
4.10 Aberdy.
4.40 Karen Louise.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

SIS

2.10

STARFISH MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O; £2,784; 7f) (14 runners)

1 (8) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
2 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
3 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
4 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
5 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
6 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
7 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
8 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
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11 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
12 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
13 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
14 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

FORM FOCUS

65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

2.40

CANDY FLOSS SELLING STAKES (£2,385; 1m 3f) (7 runners)

1 (8) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
2 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
3 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
4 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
5 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
6 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
7 (1) 65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

FORM FOCUS

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65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5
65500 PALACEGATE PRINCE (D. J. Bell) M. Hemsforth 5-5 M. Hemsforth 5-5

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS Wins Runs % JOCKEYS Wins Runs %
J. Gosden 15 25 40.2 P. Edworthy 37 122 30.1
J. Gosden 15 25 40.2 P. Edworthy 37 122 30.1
J. Gosden 15 25 40.2 P. Edworthy 37 122 30.1
J. Gosden 15 25 40.2 P. Edworthy 37 122 30.1

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 04-02 6000 TIMES 74 (C.D.F.F.) (M. Hemsforth) 8 Ball 9-10-0 W West (4) 88

Racecard notes: In brackets, S-Legume form: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162nd, 163rd, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172nd, 173rd, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 178th, 179th, 180th, 181st, 182nd, 183rd, 184th, 185th, 186th, 187th, 188th, 189th, 190th, 191st, 192nd, 193rd, 194th, 195th, 196th, 197th, 198th, 199th, 200th, 201st, 202nd, 203rd, 204th, 205th, 206th, 207th, 208th, 209th, 210th, 211st, 212th, 213th, 214th, 215th, 216th, 217th, 218th, 219th, 220th, 221st, 222nd, 223rd, 224th, 225th, 226th, 227th, 228th, 229th, 230th, 231st, 232nd, 233rd, 234th, 235th, 236th, 237th, 238th, 239th, 240th, 241st, 242nd, 243rd, 244th, 245th, 246th, 247th, 248th, 249th, 250th, 251st, 252nd, 253rd, 254th, 255th, 256th, 257th, 258th, 259th, 260th, 261st, 262nd, 263rd, 264th, 265th, 266th, 267th, 268th, 269th, 270th, 271st, 272nd, 273rd, 274th, 275th, 276th, 277th, 278th, 279th, 280th, 281st, 282nd, 283rd, 284th, 285th, 286th, 287th, 288th, 289th, 290th, 291st, 292nd, 293rd, 294th, 295th, 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582nd, 583rd, 584th, 585th, 586th, 587th, 588th, 589th, 590th, 591st, 592nd, 593rd, 594th, 595th, 596th, 597th, 598th, 599th, 600th, 601st, 602nd, 603rd, 604th, 605th, 606th, 607th, 608th, 609th, 610th, 611st, 612th, 613th, 614th, 615th, 616th, 617th, 618th, 619th, 620th, 621st, 622nd, 623rd, 624th, 625th, 626th, 627th, 628th, 629th, 630th, 631st, 632nd, 633rd, 634th, 635th, 636th, 637th, 638th, 639th, 640th, 641st, 642nd, 643rd, 644th, 645th, 646th, 647th, 648th, 649th, 650th, 651st, 652nd, 653rd, 654th, 655th, 656th, 657th, 658th, 659th, 660th, 661st, 662nd, 663rd, 664th, 665th, 666th, 667th, 668th, 669th, 670th, 671st, 672nd, 673rd, 674th, 675th, 676th, 677th, 678th, 679th, 680th, 681st, 682nd, 683rd, 684th, 685th, 686th, 687th, 688th, 689th, 690th, 691st, 692nd, 693rd, 694th, 695th, 696th, 697th, 698th, 699th, 700th, 701st, 702nd, 703rd, 704th, 705th, 706th, 707th, 708th, 709th, 710th, 711st, 712th, 713th, 714th, 715th, 716th, 717th, 718th, 719th, 720th, 721st, 722nd, 723rd, 724th, 725th, 726th, 727th, 728th, 729th, 730th, 731st, 732nd, 733rd, 734th, 735th, 736th, 737th, 738th, 739th, 740th, 741st, 742nd, 743rd, 744th, 745th, 746th, 747th, 748th, 749th, 750th, 751st, 752nd, 753rd, 754th, 755th, 756th, 757th, 758th, 759th, 760th, 761st, 762nd, 763rd, 764th, 765th, 766th, 767th, 768th, 769th, 770th, 771st, 772nd, 773rd, 774th, 775th, 776th, 777th, 778th, 779th, 780th, 781st, 782nd, 783rd, 784th, 785th, 786th, 787th, 788th, 789th, 790th, 791st, 792nd, 793rd, 794th, 795th, 796th, 797th, 798th, 799th, 800th, 801st, 802nd, 803rd, 804th, 805th, 806th, 807th, 808th, 809th, 810th, 811st, 812nd, 813th, 814th, 815th, 816th, 817th, 818th, 819th, 820th, 821st, 822nd, 823rd, 824th, 825th, 826th, 827th, 828th, 829th, 830th, 831st, 832nd, 833rd, 834th, 835th, 836th, 837th, 838th, 839th, 840th, 841st, 842nd, 843rd, 844th, 845th, 846th, 847th, 848th, 849th, 850th, 851st, 852nd, 853rd, 854th, 855th, 856th, 857th, 858th, 859th, 860th, 861st, 862nd, 863rd, 864th, 865th, 866th, 867th, 868th, 869th, 870th, 871st, 872nd, 873rd, 8

BY IVO TENNANT

2 10 40
 (times) 1-9 Downing Road, London N1 5AA

Games outfits do not suit Gunnell

Atherton said: "We are delighted that Sally has won a



s Ivanisevic

The world No. 4 said: "He's been playing well all week, but I was empty ... today I was dead, I was late on every ball, I couldn't serve. I've not played for so long in my life." Ivanisevic had played 36 sets in nine days.

Rosset ousts Ivanisevic

The world No. 4 said: "He's been playing well all week, but I was empty ... today I was dead, I was late on every ball, I couldn't serve. I've not played for so long in my life." Ivanisevic had played 36 sets in nine days.

national standing of Barcelona, the drive to innovate

At the end of a fortnight of exceptional sporting events, Barcelona has become symbolic, not merely in the history of the Games, but for their future.



Cross (US), 11-10; A Datz (Cuba) b R Dawson (Can), 9-7.

Featherweight

FOURTH ROUND: Group A: L Martinez (Cuba) bt Kim Gwang-chol (N Kor), 10-5; Shin Sang-hwee (S Kor) bt M Poley (Can), 7-7 (over); J Smith (US) bt M Azzov (IT), 13-9.

Middleweight

FOURTH ROUND: Group A: J Lohynsky (Ger) bt R Solyard (Bul), 10-5; H Gotschke (Ger) bt N Ginter (Rom), 10-9; E Jabrasson (IT) bt L Givens (UK), 12-7; Group B: Jackson (US) bt F Serré (Sp), 12-9; Azghedi (Iran) bt S Oezkan (Tur), 12-7.

Light-heavyweight

FOURTH ROUND: Group A: R Vargas (Cuba) bt R Lombardo (U), 10-4; M Khrantsov (UT) bt L Schneider (Ger), 12-4; C Campbell (US), bye; Group B: Serré (Tur) bt A Nibesi (Iran), 12-5; Sukhin (Mong), bye.

PRAT



PRAT MONLY PRAT

3
H.C.

n rely on this year....

aperitif definitif!

mer-the delicious, dry,
at cleanses the palate and
like no other aperitif.
k for 3 years in the sun-
enriched with a secret blend
roduce the unique taste.
- simply chilled or with ice.
order, the name *does* rhyme
cat.

MISUNDERSTOOD.

NOILLY PRAT

A French gold you can rely on this year....

Noilly Prat is l'aperitif définitif!

Before lunch, before dinner- the delicious, dry, rounded, taste of Noilly Prat cleanses the palate and stimulates the appetite like no other aperitif.

Fine wines matured in oak for 3 years in the sun-drenched South of France, enriched with a secret blend of more than 40 herbs, produce the unique taste.

Experience Noilly Prat today- simply chilled or with ice.

And remember when you order, the name *does* rhyme with cat.

FRENCH, DRY AND MISUNDERSTOOD.

FRIDAY AUGUST 7 1992

Pakistan wrest control of fifth Test match

England wilt under the barrage from Wasim

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE OVAL (first day of five; England won toss): Pakistan, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 191 runs behind England.

ALL day long, England's grip on this Cornhill series was fingertip light. In the lengthening shadows of the evening session, they let it slip to the ground with a resounding clatter as Wasim Akram gained overdue recognition for suffering on a grand scale. Wasim could have reversed the result of the Headingley Test with a modicum of justice for innumerable moral victories. He kept his head and his humour in a way that set an example to the less composed of his colleagues and yesterday, as the routine repeated itself, he even allowed himself a few rueful grins.

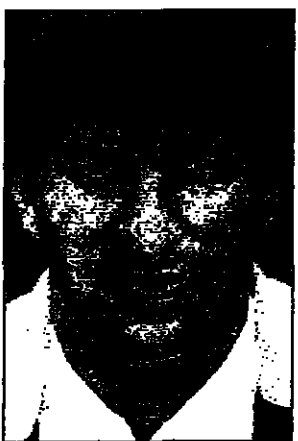
His recompense was dramatic and complete. As England plummeted from the deceptive comfort of 182 for three to the dire inadequacy of 207 all out, Wasim took five for seven in 23 balls. Three were bowled, two leg-before, as the peerless left-arm, of Lahore and Lancashire, located a devastating line.

This was not quite the end of the indignities heaped upon England by Wasim. When they came out to field for the final five overs of the day, Robin Smith was keeping

wicket. It was the legacy of a blow on Alec Stewart's left foot, requiring an x-ray, as he faced Wasim while, hopefully for the last time, trying to combine two key roles.

Stewart had opened with Gooch as the game began in the way England would have hoped. It was a good loss to win on a true pitch and Gooch will have set out with ambitions of 450-plus, first to insure against defeat and then to bid for victory.

It would be trite to say that England batted badly. The truth is that Pakistan bowled to their potential, which is wonderfully well. There was not a phase of the day in which the batsmen were in com-



Wasim: peerless

mand, despite conditions being as friendly as at any stage of the series.

Pakistan made one anticipated change, substituting Shoaib for Inzamam, and another which came as a surprise, leaving out Moin to give Rashid Latif a Test debut. At Headingley, Latif incurred the displeasure of the match referee by hurling down his cap while fielding as substitute. Now he took his role as wicketkeeper, with the precaution of playing bare-headed.

England, who preferred Pringle to Munton, reached 39 without loss in 11 overs. All was apparently going to plan. But Wasim had already indicated the way Pakistan meant to bowl to Gooch, firing it in short with close fielders on both sides of the pitch, and when Agib followed suit, the England captain could do no more than spoon the ball to short leg. Stewart, too, fell for the sucker punch, though to an attacking shot. Failing to control a hook against Wasim, he was caught at long leg.

For more than two hours, Atherton and Smith remained together. It was, however, an uneasy truce, separation never far away. Smith was worked over by Wasim, only one of five short balls in succession being deemed a bouncer; Wasim went past Atherton's outside edge for a

pastime; then Mushtaq, beginning an unchanged three-hour spell, bewitched and bothered both batsmen.

Smith, who has been disappointing since his century in the first Test, lost patience after 150 minutes and charged Mushtaq, driving outside the indrafting goody and being bowled before Latif could stump him.

Gower emerged to his usual ovation but when he raised his arms, it was in mock triumph after making contact with the seventh ball he received. Despite driving deliciously against Mushtaq, and square-cutting Agib with certainty, it was no surprise when he dragged a short one on.

This was the beginning of the end. Wasim wound himself up and enjoyed the fortune which had spurned him for so long. Ramprakash went forward and Lewis back to two inswingers; the result was the same. The tail was simply swept away, while Wasim gained a solitary wicket. It was, though, the vital one of Atherton, who had batted 262 minutes for 60. It was a work of great perseverance, without which England's plight this morning would be still more dreadful.

John Woodcock, page 26
Photograph, page 26

SCORES FROM THE OVAL

England won toss

ENGLAND: First Innings

	Bs	4s	Mins	Balls
*G A Gooch c Mubtaz b Agib	20	0	2	49
Lobbed rising ball to short leg				
†A J Stewart c Ramiz b Wasim	31	0	4	65
Hooked high to backward square leg				
M A Atherton c Latif b Wasim	60	0	6	262
Defensive forward shot, edged to keeper				
R A Smith b Mushtaq	33	0	3	149
Leaping out to drive goody				
D J Gower b Agib	27	0	4	63
Square cutting, inside edge onto leg stump				
M R Ramprakash bow b Wasim	2	0	0	6
Stretching forward				
C C Lewis bow b Wasim	4	0	0	12
Playing back to fast break-back				
D R Pringle b Wasim	1	0	0	3
Yorked				
N A Maitland b Wasim	4	0	0	10
Yorked				
P C R Tufnell not out	0	0	0	13
Yorked				
D E Malcolm b Wasim	2	0	0	7
Yorked				
Extras (b 4, lb 8, w 1, nb 10)				23
Total (889 mins, 78.1 overs)				207

FALL: 1-38 (Stewart 16), 2-57 (Atherton 1), 3-136 (Atherton 43), 4-182 (Atherton 54), 5-190 (Atherton 60), 6-196 (Atherton 60), 7-199 (Atherton 60), 8-203 (Maitland 3), 9-205 (Tufnell 0), 10-207 (Tufnell 0).

BOWLING: Wasim 22.1-3-67-6 (no 8) (8-0-40-1, 7-2-9-0, 7.1-1-18-5); Wasim 18-4-37-1 (w 1)

(1-0-3-0, 6-2-19-0, 7-1-12-0, 2-1-3-1; Agib 18-4-44-2 (no 3) (8-4-17-1, 4-1-17-0, 3-1-10-1); Mushtaq 24-7-47-1 (one spell, morning session 3-0-5-0, afternoon session 17-0-27-1, evening session 4-1-14-0).

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: 50-62 mins, 14.1 overs. Lunch 60-2 (Atherton 17, Smith 12, 27 mins, 100, 153 mins, 37.2 overs. Tea 140-3 (Atherton 60, Gower 5), 60 mins, 152-242 mins, 60 mins, 200-310 mins, 75 mins. Innings closed 5.25pm.

PAKISTAN: First Innings

	Bs	4s	Mins	Balls
Aamir Sohail not out			9	0
Ramiz Raja not out	7	0	0	21
Total (21 mins, 5 overs)				16

Aamir Sohail, Umar Farooq, Salim Malik, Shoaib Mohammad, Wasim Akram, Rashid Latif, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed and Agib Javed to bat.

BOWLING: Maitland 3-1-0-0 (one spell); Malcolm 2-0-11-0 (one spell).

Umpires: H D Bird, D R Shepherd.

TELEVISION: BBC1 10.00-12.00, 14.20-18.00 and BBC2 13.00-14.20: Live coverage with Olympic Grandstand. BBC2 23.30-midnight: Highlights.

RADIO: Radio 3: 10.55-18.10. Commentary. Radio 5: 10.00-22.10: Summaries.

PREVIOUS TESTS: June 4-9: England won. June 18-22: Lord's Pakistan won by two wickets. July 2-7: Old Trafford: Match drawn. July 22-27: Headingley: England won by six wickets.

WEATHER: Today: Starting dry, but clouding over, with thunderstorms possible in late afternoon. Increasingly humid. Tomorrow: Continuing cloud and heavy showers, giving way to brighter spells.

My handwriting analyst tells me I'm a person with discerning taste.

PURE GENIUS.

Why Uncle Sam barely got to first base

FROM CRAIG LORD IN BARCELONA

WHEN you have been World Series baseball champions forever, it is hard to take being struck out of the medals when your national game is finally included in the Olympics.

But then the World Series is not really a world series, and the men that pursue that particular glory and the accompanying multi-million-dollar rewards are locked out of the Olympics not just by amateur rules but also by their paymasters.

The 20 college kids who turned out for the United States at the Hospitalet stadium, in the lush valley at the foot of the shimmering Tibidabo hills, were given

every help to do their best for the national cause. At the medal-deciding games, a near-capacity crowd of almost 7,000 proved popularity, while the Spaniards even played American rockabilly and country music between innings for them.

But with an average age of 21, the apprentices lacked the experience to deal with the expertise of older sides from Cuba, who beat Chinese Taipei 11-1 in the final, and Japan, who beat the Americans 8-3 for the bronze.

A twin resolution to Uncle Sam's dilemma would lie in changing International Baseball Association (IBA) rules and in pressure from an American public which, according to the NBC television



Meaty endeavours, page 3
Simon Barnes, page 14
Roger Black, page 26
Results, page 27

network, has spent more quality dream-time watching basketball than any other sport.

The theory is that by the time Atlanta opens its doors to the Olympic family, Ameri-

cans would no more tolerate defeat by Cuba than give Fidel Castro the keys to New York, the birthplace in 1837 of baseball, which was an Olympic demonstration sport six times.

Ron Fraser, the American team manager, said: "I doubt whether there will ever be a 'dream team' in Olympic baseball. The other IBA countries would never vote for it. They're not going to vote for something that would destroy them. Nor would the agents release their best players for three weeks at the height of the season, Olympics or not. Sure, the American people might well love it."

An American dream team might include Roger Clemens, the Boston Red Sox

pitcher, Kirby Puckett, an outfielder with the Minnesota Twins, and Ryne Sandberg, a second baseman with the Chicago Cubs. This season, those three will earn about \$17 million among them.

Fraser, a mild-mannered manager who has been at the top of the amateur side of his profession for 32 years, and for whom Barcelona was a swansong, was "pleased with the kids", 15 of whom have been drafted by professional teams searching for their future leaders. But he lamented that while American amateurs received no rewards, Cuba was a state-funded and wealthy team, and Chinese Taipei players received \$200,000 each for making the final.

Britain's 1,500m hopes die

FROM DAVID POWELL ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN BARCELONA

BRITAIN will be without a representative in either the men's or women's 1,500 metres finals tomorrow. Matthew Yates, Kevin McKay and Kirsty Wade, Britain's three semi-finals qualifiers, were all eliminated yesterday.

It is the first time for 32 years that Britain has not provided a men's 1,500 metres finalist. McKay went out in the first semi-final after losing contact down the back straight of the final lap. With the first five to qualify, and the two fastest losers, he was tenth in 3min 40.80sec.

Nouredine Morceli, the world champion, from Algeria, won in 3:39.22 while one of his expected main challengers for the title, Jens-Peter Herold, of Germany, only squeezed in, finishing fifth in 3:39.55.

Yates, troubled by the effects of a viral illness for much of the season, was twelfth after gallantly setting the pace over the first two laps. Mohamed Sulaiman, of Qatar, beat Fernán Cacho, of Spain. Sulaiman recorded 3:34.77 to Cacho's 3:34.93.

In the women's semi-finals, Wade, like Yates, made a brave but failed attempt at pace-setting. The two main contenders, Tatyana Dorovskikh and Hassiba Boulmerka, came through safely.

Gwen Torrence, of the United States, pulled away to win the women's 200 metres in 21.81sec from two Jamaicans. Juliet Cuthbert and Melene Oley, Cuthbert was second in 22.02.



Sky high: Young salutes his world record 46.78sec and Olympic gold in Barcelona yesterday

Young rushes to eclipse Moses

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

KEVIN Young, of the United States, raised his finger to the sky ten metres from home as he broke one of the oldest track world records by winning the 400 metres hurdles at the Olympic Games in Barcelona yesterday.

Young knocked over the last hurdle, but destroyed his rivals with a time of 46.78sec, beating the previous record of 47.02 set by his fellow American, Ed Moses, in Koblenz in August 1983. He celebrated his unexpected record by laying on the track draped in the American flag and kicking his legs in the air.

In a spectacular triple for the United States, Mike Marsh won the men's 200 metres in 20.01sec and Gwen Torrence the women's in 21.81. But Marsh was far from the world record of 19.72 he had been expected to break after missing it by 0.01sec in the semi-finals on Wednesday.

Off the track, drug scandals continued. Jud Logan,

the American hammer thrower, aged 33, became the third athlete in three days to be ejected from the Games for taking drugs.

Logan, the first American track and field athlete to be expelled from the Summer Games, tested positive for clenbuterol, a banned stimulant and steroid-related drug that can turn fat into muscle. The drug was found in his urine samples after he finished fourth in the hammer final on Sunday. He faces a four-year ban from the sport and has already left Barcelona.

Wu Dan, a Chinese women's volleyball player, was expelled for taking a Chinese folk medicine that contained strychnine and the Belarus marathon runner, Madina Biktigirova, was banned for taking the stimulant norephedrine after she came fourth on Saturday.

The 400 metres hurdles was the first athletics world record to fall at the Games. Young, aged 25, roared to

victory by six metres in the first sub-47sec run in history. "The world record was all mine," he said. "I guess my priority today was to come out and win a gold."

Young has been sharing a room in the athletes' village with Quincy Watts, who won a gold in the 400 metres on Wednesday.

"I stared at his gold medal yesterday and was really keyed up," he said. "I wanted to get the chance to get out there and do it myself. I didn't realise I was running that fast. All I saw was the line and the fact that I was going to win. As I crossed the tape, I had my hand up, something I always wanted to do. I looked up at the time and I was just ecstatic."

"I've always wanted to raise my hand like that crossing the finish line and I finally got to do it."

Windrop Graham of Jamaica came in second in 47.66sec with Kris Akabusi, of Britain, third in 47.82. Akabusi's former coach,

Mike Smith, told of his great delight at seeing his protégé win bronze for Britain last night. "It was absolutely terrific," he said. "It was typical of Kris to fight so hard. He was determined to do his best for Britain and get a medal and that is what he did." Smith trained the former American sergeant for eight years in Southampton as a member of Team Solent.

The record and gold made up for Young's disappointments at the Seoul Olympics four years ago and at the 1991 world championships in Tokyo. He finished fourth both times.

Minutes earlier, Marsh had failed to break the 200 metres record. His chances were hit by a headwind and he finished 0.29sec outside Pietro Mennea's record, set in 1979. Frankie Fredericks, of Namibia, who finished second in the 100 metres on Saturday, took the silver in 20.13 with Michael Bates third in 20.38.

Bronze medal for the flag-waving Brits

GREAT Britain's place in the medals table is nothing to write home about — yet again — but at least the supporters are showing the flag. The hosts, of course, are supplying the bulk of the spectators, but Britain comes in a good third, with an estimated 8,000 spectators, a figure surpassed among the visitors only by 10,000 from the United States.

The French, who can hop over the border for much shorter trips, are placed third place by the organisers, with the Germans fourth.

He does, he will

IT'S going to be a busy weekend for Matthew Pinsent. Britain's rowing gold medal-winner. He is doing a 1,500 mile round trip from Barcelona to Blendworth, Hamp-

shire, in under 24 hours, to give away his sister, Emma, returning in time for the closing ceremony. It has been quite a week for the family, who were all in Barcelona to see him win the coxed pairs, his sister having her hen party there.

His father, the Rev Ewen, is officiating at the wedding. "His father is so proud of both of them," their mother, Jean Pinsent, said. "It will be awful come next week because the Olympics and the wedding will be over. We will have to try and wind down."

Novel idea

JUST before the British team left for Barcelona, team officials were approached by a self-styled "independent" group offering to give them a book, *The Way to Happiness*, for

each team member. The idea of adding four hundred hardbacks to their already heavy supplies did not appeal and the offer was declined, and forgotten. Until early yesterday, when the books were delivered at the village.

The cover picture was of a path winding through woods and mountains to the sky. Inside, the fly leaf proclaimed, was the code the team should follow to go in the right direction. Closer inspection revealed the books had been printed by permission of the Church of Scientology. They have been banned.

All in the stars

THE path to follow might have helped the archers of

Bhutan, the tiny Himalayan kingdom where archery is the national sport. A superstitious lot, the sportsmen from the "land of the thunder dragon", they consulted astrological charts to determine the best time to travel.

"Monks told them the best time to leave. They stuck to the advice and it obviously worked because they arrived safely," the Bhutan chef de mission, D. K. Chetri, said. "The problem was they couldn't decide the time of the competition or the best time to shoot by the charts."

Just the 'biz'

VESTS with GBR or USA on them are fairly self-explanatory, but one has raised a few eyebrows. Who do athletes wearing BIZ represent? Swit-

zerland, revealing a hitherto hidden sense of humour, or even a breakaway team sponsored by Hale and Pace, were among the replies to a Times sports department straw poll, but the answer is much more mundane — Belize.

Watchword

FROM the if you believe this you'll believe anything department. The six candidates for 2000 have agreed that excessive entertaining and lavish gifts to International Olympic Committee members will not be part of their campaign strategy. Announcing this, Francois Carrard, the IOC secretary general, offered a guideline. "We don't mind. Swatch watches are an acceptable gift. A Rolex is not. It treats too strong a relationship."

Johnnie Walker 1520



HEALTH p5

Is winning
Olympic gold
all in the
mind?



LIFE & TIMES

FRIDAY AUGUST 7 1992

MOTORING p6

Beaulieu at
40, a unique
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Speaking from the heart of Slovenia

Rather than watch
her homeland
being torn apart,
Lady Nott, whose
husband was
Britain's defence
secretary, has
stepped into
the limelight

Miloska Nott was a good political wife. Unobtrusive, devoted and self-effacing. During the years her husband was in office, she stayed mainly in Cornwall with their three children, opening fires, growing daffodils. People used to ask what John Nott's wife looked like.

But, behind the scenes, she was deeply affected by events. During the Falklands war in 1982 — when her husband was defence secretary — her fair hair turned white overnight. It was the night HMS Sheffield went down. "I didn't sleep very much. I got up in the morning, looked in the mirror and I couldn't believe it: I was grey."

Now, like most of us, she has watched the news coverage from old Yugoslavia with mounting despair and helplessness. Unlike most of us, though, she packed a bag and went. It is her homeland.

"I couldn't any more watch what was happening. I took my suitcase and produced myself to the camp. I know this country. I am Slovene, I speak Serbo-Croat, I could sit with them and listen, so my information is not from officials or government, but from the people. They put arms round me and we cry together — I have never cried so much — and they tell me, 'My son has been killed', or they have no news of their husbands since the war started. Any mother with me could not but be in tears with me. The misery, the misery."

"I heard such things... I know the truth. These are not people that would lie. People living 100 miles apart tell you the same stories, so a pattern emerges of how this ethnic cleansing, this genocide, takes place."

No reports of atrocity could be disbelieved after Wednesday, when the world was newly outraged by the mortar attack on the children's funeral in Sarajevo. That night, BBC's *Newsnight* addressed the pros and cons of military intervention. It was a largely masculine affair. Professor John Casey disparaging "media jingoism", diplomat Sir Nico Henderson and Sir Anthony Parsons speaking with gentlemanly caution of more peace talks, sanctions, of protecting convoys of relief supplies, of "creating an atmosphere where negotiations would have more meaning".

And there was Lady Nott, with her fashionable face, her exuberant Slovene accent, her passion. Did we detect an aura of polite uninterest? There always is, when a woman speaks from the heart in the middle of a reasoned, male political discussion. Only Lady Nott had been to the refugee camps, and heard at first hand that the atrocities we are allowed to see in Sarajevo are only the tip of a hideous iceberg.

When I rang her at midnight, she was due to fly to Cornwall in the morning, but suggested we meet at 6am. Her days invariably start at that hour, down on the daffodil farm. She was in a floral frock and scarlet shoes, packed for the airport but quite ready to talk non-stop.

"I am not a politician, I have never made a political speech in my life. I became political only a few weeks ago. I tell you, six years ago I would have died rather than go on television. For all my years as a politician's wife, you have never seen me in public. I never hung around the House of Commons or anything. But for this cause I would go to the end of the earth."

When she returned from her second visit to the refugee camps, she asked to see Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, to tell what she knew of the concentration camps. She was told Mr Hurd could not see her for a month. Margaret Thatcher was more sympathetic. She saw Lady Nott at once, and



"For all my years as a politician's wife, you have never seen me in public. I never hung around the House of Commons or anything. But for this cause I would go to the end of the earth": Miloska Nott

agreed to become one of the trustees, along with Professor Norman Stone and others, of her Fund for Refugees in Slovenia.

This is now her crusade. The Muslim Bosnians, an ancient European people who have lived peacefully with their Croatian and Serbian neighbours, are being systematically deprived of a motherland, deported or "ethnically cleansed" — slaughtered. Terrible violence is inflicted on women and children. Lady Nott rages at the "absolute stupidity" of the arms embargo placed by the rest of Europe on the defenceless victims "of an aggressor who has enough munitions for ten years and its own factory, and gets masses of lorries through Romania. God knows from where."

"A boy, who had seen three of his friends killed, said to me: 'How can it be that we have democratically elected government, recognised by European countries, and yet they tell us we must not defend our homes and our country? We have nothing to fight with.'"

In her view the Foreign Office was too busy fussing over Maastricht to listen to earlier warnings about Serbian expansionism. "The Austrian foreign minister, the Hungarians, the Italians, Hans-Dietrich Genscher [the German foreign minister] — all of them understood the problem very well, they knew what was happening. And we didn't listen. The Foreign Office didn't feel it was important enough."

"We should have been the leaders of co-ordination of Common Market countries. We could have negotiated with strength, not with weakness of disunity. To me Maastricht is a joke, a complete joke. If we cannot sort out a problem in our back yard in Europe, how can we talk about Maastricht? What does Maastricht really mean?"

Mr Hurd is to summon another peace conference on August 26. The futility of it all exasperates her. "The more peace talks, the more people get killed. Are we going to do nothing about the slaughter of thousands? Every time they have a ceasefire — and we have over a hundred ceasefires — they are pounded more heavily. We are lunching and dining these self-appointed leaders who have not been elected."

"How can you preach for 60 years that democracy is people's right, and that it is a sacrifice to offend democracy, and then when they have a plebiscite, like in Slovenia, tell them, no, sorry, you can't have your democracy, your independence? What kind of a dual standard is that?"

"I feel loyal to British. I have lived here 37 years. I came out of former Yugoslavia ten terrible years after communism, and here in Britain I have learnt about justice, about moral principle, and about protecting the oppressed."

In Slovenia, working alongside the Red Cross in Slovenska Bistrica, in a makeshift refugee camp in an old factory with no hot water, she distributed 200 packs labelled "Help from the people of Great Britain" ("And they said, 'But we thought the people of Great Britain didn't like us'") containing supplies of flour, sugar, oil, long-life milk, rice, tins of sardines, toothpaste and soap. These one-month supplies consumed her first £5,000. Then she ran out of money.

Money, she says, is coming in slowly (the fund has an account at Barclays Bank, Oxford Circus). The refugees, some of whom had trekked 200 miles to the frontier, told her how Serbian forces would arrive in a village, trick the inhabitants by calling them "brothers" or "friends", say they had not come to fight, make them give up their munitions — a pathetic few guns — then surround the village, getting people to sign over their houses to Serbian families. Announcing, "This is now our property", they would invariably kill a few villagers for good measure. "So terror reigns, and they frighten everybody to death," Lady Nott says.

"Fifty journalists have died so far to bring us the truth, and we almost blame them for bringing us bad news from Sarajevo. They allow the journalists in to the capital, and the refugees tell me the best service we have done to the Serbian army is to concentrate on Sarajevo, so that atrocities could take place, village



THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW

by village, all over Bosnia. People arrive in Sarajevo as a refuge from what is happening much worse outside.

"Lady Chalker [the minister for overseas development] said these people must remain near their homes, but I am asking her, which homes? Do the Croats have to take more refugees? Or the Slovenes? And how can these two republics

'I came out of former Yugoslavia ten terrible years after communism, and in Britain I have learnt about justice, about moral principle, and about protecting the oppressed'

cope? Hungary can't cope with 600,000. Why are we shirking our responsibility on a humanitarian basis?"

"You know when the Jewish people were taken to concentration camps, we said we did not know. Well, now we know, everybody knows: there is systematic 'ethnic cleansing'. And what we are doing? We are watching it happen."

Her own father died in Dachau. He ran a small hotel-restaurant at Maribor, near the border with Austria. "All the Gestapo used to come and eat there. For almost all the war my father was helping to

smuggle out people who were on the danger list, Jewish and Slovenes, who were going to be deported to the concentration camps in Germany."

"They used some sort of tunnel to get to the Pohorje mountains, where they can escape. Five months before the war ended he was caught. His friend was caught first and was so mutilated and tortured by the Gestapo he gave my father's name away."

She spent her own wartime childhood at a farm, for safety, and afterwards attended a *gymnasium* in Slovenia. Later she went to Munich, and at 17 to Cambridge to learn English. There she met her husband to be, who was reading law and economics at Trinity. They married in 1959, the year he was president of the Cambridge Union. She was 24, he three years older.

He said then that he would spend 15 years in politics, and her relief that he now leads the much easier life of chairman of Lazard Brothers, the merchant bankers, is plain. "I still feel sorry for every Cabinet minister's wife," she says. Michael Howard, the environment secretary, lives right next door to them in Chelsea.

The admirable Sandra Howard has Lady Nott's sympathy. "The Notts' children — Julian, William and Sase (pronounced Sasha) — have all now left home, and she has been content until now to be a successful daffodil farmer. Now is the season for lifting, pre-cooling

and sterilising the bulbs before replanting. In early spring she employs 70 pickers — and is shocked to see daffodils selling in London for £1.50 for a bunch of ten (she gets 13p in the market) in March. But now, with Sir John's encouragement — he has lent her fund a full-time secretary, and approached companies to donate supplies — she is going back to Slovenia."

She describes the shell-shocked, glassy-eyed look of a young woman who had walked for two weeks with her three-month-old baby in her arms. And the grandmother who had seen two sons killed, with

another son missing in Sarajevo, who told of the "sadistic" Serbs coming to her village. They asked her if she owned any cows, and whether she had ever seen a cow burning alive, then threw a grenade into her barn, so that she heard the screams of her burning animals.

"Not all Serbs are bad," she adds. "Serbian people don't know what is happening in the name of their government. But what sort of aggressor deliberately destroys all the ancient monuments and churches and mosques in Croatia, who wipes out — in the middle of Europe — all former civilisation, the history and culture of 1,000 years?"

"People say, 'They're all killing each other', but they're not. There is the aggressor and there are the defenders. And if we allow an inch of land to the aggressor, it will be infectious."

She predicts the possibility of seven million displaced people, mostly Muslim. "And where will it stop? Will they attack Albania? Bulgaria? Serbia? The Serbs are the third most powerful in Europe. These people must not be allowed to hold what they have conquered by force."

Democratic Slovenia, she stresses, has no conflict with anybody. "It would help Slovene economy, and the refugees, if British people would go there." There is the resort of Bled, the Pohorje mountains, good walking countryside, the handsome Hapsburg cities, English widely spoken. "They are trying to become like a little Switzerland. And perhaps, as one of the oldest democracies, we should support a new democracy."

This week we heard how the ITN reporter Michael Nicholson took his own direct action. Covering his 15th war, he could no longer be impartial about horror piled on horror. Only an airlift could save the children, he said, "and by the time the politicians got round to agreeing to do it, the children would all be dead anyway". On a humanitarian impulse he seized Natasha, aged nine, wrote her name on his passport and brought her to Britain.

Lady Nott has been tempted to do the same: she was deeply moved by the story of a 13-year-old girl made pregnant four months ago

during a mass rape by the Serbian army. "The girl who got pregnant was chucked out. This girl will never be normal again." Nor can she forget a nine-year-old boy who was told that his father is dead, but who waits, night after night, by the telephone.

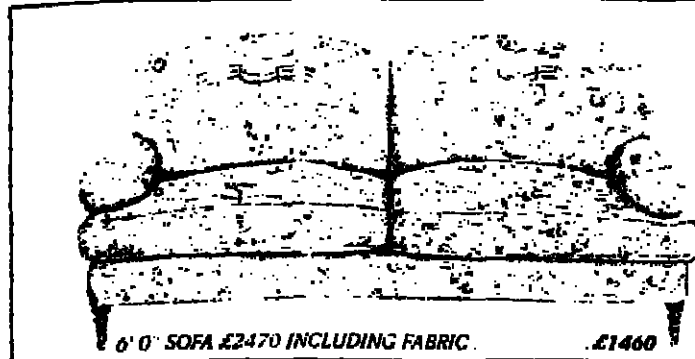
Reminders of the Lebanon, of troops deployed ineffectually in Northern Ireland, of open-ended commitment to impossible objectives as in Vietnam, have been invoked in support of non-intervention. But this week some form of reaction finally became inevitable. The UN demanded access to the detention camps the Rep. Crise said "no torture has been observed" at nine such camps; but the pictures we saw were reminiscent of *El Estero*. "How thin the membrane of civilisation seems," reflected James Cox, the *Newsnight* anchorman, on Wednesday night. "The words of politicians and diplomats have a hollow ring."

While in the refugee camps, Lady Nott watched Bill Clinton, the Democratic candidate for the American presidency, on television. When the candidate mentioned Bosnia, everyone in the camp was cheered. They clutched at such words. The Bosnian dream of the American Sixth Fleet and the NATO coming to their rescue, taking out targets, a swift end to the nightmare. She tells them not to expect ground troops. "I tell them, how would a British mother feel when she receives a letter, 'Your son has bravely fought in Bosnia' and she does not even know where Bosnia is? All we want is air force, Sixth Fleet, and the means in flight instead of being left naked the way you leave us now."

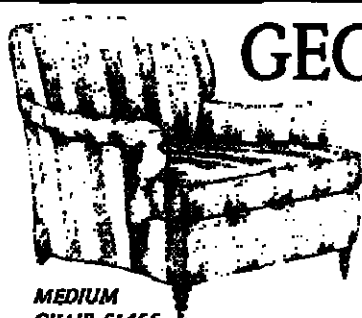
"People must understand, these are Slavs. They are not destined people, they are quite affluent, they have videos, it is exactly as if it was done to you or me, one day, surround your village and surround your house and say, 'This is now our property. They are a very proud people, who never thought this would happen to them. They want to go home.'"

TOMORROW

Wild fling: the old-fashioned fun of the Scottish season



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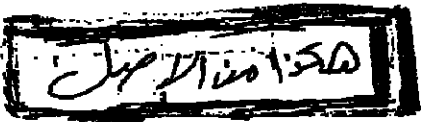
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BBC PROMS 92: Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra perform Mahler's *Blumine* (the second of five movements in the original draft of the first symphony). Debussy's 1913 ballet *Jacques*, Haydn's Symphony No 30 and Bartók's *Concerto No 2*, with Peter Donohoe as soloist.

Tomorrow Granville Gemmet conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra in Mozart's overture *The Magic Flute*, Beethoven's Violin Concerto in D major and Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*. Frank Peter Zimmermann is soloist in the Beethoven.

On Sunday Jean Rigby and Lesley Garrett are soloists in Mahler's "Resurrection" symphony, preceded by Berg's *Three Pieces for Orchestra*. Tadashi Otaka conducts the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, BBC Welsh Chorus and the Bach Choir. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 0RT 023 9998, tonight-Sun, 7.30pm.

OPERA IN HOLLAND PARK: The summer season of opera continues with Regency Opera productions of Britain's Albert Herring (sung) and Puccini's *La Bohème* (sung). Holland Park Theatre, Holland Park, London W8 0RT 023 7856, tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm.

ROYAL BALLET: Final performances this season. The 19th-century melodrama *La Bayadère* is danced tonight by Fiona Chadwick, William Trevett and Nicola Tranfaglia. Tomorrow there are two performances of Macmillan's Shakespeare ballet *Romeo and Juliet*. The main title is danced by Kirov ballerina Alina Agniamurova and Hungarian Zoltan Schymond. In the evening former Bolshoi star Irina Mikhailovna performs *Widow Tanya* as Juliet. Theirs is considered to be one of the most successful partnerships in the Royal Ballet.

COLUMBUS: American dramatist Richard Nelson's contribution to the 1492 affair is an epic drama but Columbus (Jonathan Hyde) emerges as an uncharismatic figure. Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 0RT 638 8891, tonight, tomorrow, 7.15pm, mat tomorrow, 2pm, 12.10pm.

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN: Ariel Dorfman's scorching psychological drama on the longing for revenge. Gendine James, Michael Byrne and Paul Freeman play their final week. Pearly Damsie, Denny Webb and Hugh Ross take over on August 10.

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 0RT 638 8891, tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2.30pm.

GLASGOW INTERNATIONAL EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL: The second biennial festival has an impressive international programme. It opens today with a performance by the ten sisters of Ensemble Gilles Binchois from Dijon in a liturgical performance of a 15th-century Mass by Dufay. This evening brings a concert by leading period-instrument group Les Arts Florissants (Stavros Niarchos Hall, 8.30pm). Tomorrow there is a free event: a reconstruction of a traditional rural Romanian wedding by musicians and dancers from the ensemble Histrorom (George Square from 11am).

Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, Ravello Street (Bookings: 01-332 5057), until August 15.

MARI WILSON: The vocalist has a smooth jazzy sound these days and offers intimate renditions of well-known standards and her own originals. Support from saxophonist Panay. Ronnie Scott's, 47th Street, London W1 0RT 023 9998, tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm.

RICHARD III: Shakespeare's history play is given a new production by Sam Mendes for the Royal Shakespeare Company, with Simon Russell Beale in the leading role. The Other Place, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 256623), previews, tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, opens Tues, 7pm.

THE MONSTER HE MADE ME: The Edinburgh season of new plays presents a first stage play by Michael Butts who has mostly written for radio and television. The play is inspired by Pericles's Henry IV and develops elements of the playwright's life. Edinburgh Theatre Club, Edinburgh Road, London SW10 0RT 023 9998, tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm.

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MADNESS: The nutty boys reunite for two shows promoting their *On the Beach* compilation. Also appearing are Ian Dury and the Blockheads and a rejuvenated Monty Python. Playhouse, London NW 0RT 023 9998, tomorrow, Sun, 2pm.

800 HOURS: The singer-songwriter with the poetic lyrics and mellow guitar sound performs in a welcome bill with Cline Gregson and the classic-rock band, formerly of Fairground Attraction. Portland Room, South Bank, London SE1 0RT 023 9998, Sun, Mon, 8pm.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM BERNSTEIN: Delfa Jones, Jerry Hadley, Cynthia Sieden and the London Symphony Orchestra in an evening devoted to Bernstein's West Side Story and Candide. Sadler's Wells, London EC2 0RT 023 9998, tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm.

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Galleries: John Russell Taylor on a show which is a visual cornerstone of the Edinburgh International Festival

Grow accustomed to these faces

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

Are there no real rediscoveries in art? The sour-puss view is that no artist is forgotten or neglected without good reason; received wisdom is the true wisdom, and radical reassessments are merely the desperate attempts of dealers to find new things to buy cheap and sell expensive, or of scholars to invent new areas in which to assert their unique expertise.

But why is Allan Ramsay not usually spoken of in the same breath as his contemporaries Gainsborough and Reynolds? For some years now there has been a general feeling that he should be.

The bicentenary of his death in 1984 went ominously unmarked, but this year one of the cornerstones of the Edinburgh Festival exhibitions finally gives us the chance to reassess for ourselves. Southerners are given the same chance in October, at London's National Portrait Gallery instead of Edinburgh's.

Even as an 18th-century portraitist Ramsay has had certain drawbacks. He did not paint the sort of portrait sold at astronomical prices to rich Americans in search of impressive surrogate ancestors. He was not a practitioner of the "swagger portrait".

Rather, he concentrated on the subtleties of character, particularly feminine character, in the faces of his subjects, and over the whole composition was most concerned with achieving the ultimate in delicate colour harmonies. Like little else before Whistler, his paintings could legitimately be given abstract titles, such as "Harmony in Pink and Grey", the rhetoric of the more showy 18th-century portrait is completely lacking.

Even the large-scale works here — reflecting Ramsay's most public phase, as court painter to George III — retain this subdued, intimate quality. In portraits of George III and Queen Charlotte in their coronation robes, for instance, one is most conscious of not the monarch as symbol and seat of power, but the exquisite precision with which the yards of pale grey



Ramsay's portraits of Samuel Toriano (left, from a private collection) and Margaret, the painter's second wife (National Gallery of Scotland), on show in Edinburgh

ermine have been rendered. With the more intimate portraits the most obvious parallel is with nobody from Ramsay's own century, but that 19th-century master of silvery half-tones, J.M.W. Turner. His pink, dusty gold and grey interiors seem standing ready to be peopled by Ramsay's pink, dusty gold and grey people.

Ramsay obtained the unlikely position of court painter through a friendship with that important figure of the Scottish Enlightenment, the Earl of Bute. Bute was a Scot who spent much of his time in London, as tutor to the Prince of Wales and confidant to his mother. He privately commissioned Ramsay to paint a full-length portrait of the Prince, and this turned out so successfully that the Prince then commissioned him to paint a

corresponding portrait of Bute. Both these works were sufficiently in the grand manner which Ramsay had learnt in the studio of Solimena in Naples and through personal contact with Batoni in Rome on his first two-year visit to Italy, from 1736 to 1738.

But one fascination of the Edinburgh show, arranged in strict chronological order, is to see how rapidly Ramsay progressed. There is a stiffness, almost primitive, in his very earliest works; then come baroque touches in such works as the portrait of his Italian travelling companion, Samuel Toriano; and finally, by the beginning of the 1750s, portraits that proclaim him absolutely his own man.

He turned his back on the elaborations of his Italian teachers and went back to the directness and

simplicity of his first works, though this time transfigured by the tremendous technical ease and finesse he had acquired. It also helped, no doubt, that he often painted people he knew. They included his family and the Edinburgh friends with whom in 1754 he founded the Select Society, among them Adam Smith, David Hume and Hew Dalrymple (Lord Drummore) — the judge whose grandly informal portrait is one of Ramsay's first mature masterpieces.

In Ramsay's famous portrait of his second wife, Margaret, the effect is even more natural. She leans forward towards a vase of flowers she is arranging, and turns her head to gaze at the spectator with a slight question in her eyes, for all the world as though her painter-husband has just come into

the room unexpectedly and she looks round to see what he wants. It is the perfect example of Ramsay's ideal, the wholly "natural portrait", and may well have been one of the pictures which inspired Horace Walpole to observe in 1759 that Ramsay was "all delicacy".

Walpole's contrast at that time was with Reynolds. He says the two are "our favourite painters, and two of the very best we ever had", but "can scarce be rivals, their manners are so different". He sees Reynolds as seldom successful with women sitters, while "Mr Ramsay is formed to paint them". It is certainly not that Ramsay was incapable of painting men well, but he does not give the impression of being sufficiently interested in power to capture it on canvas.

On the other hand, he is clearly

fascinated by women, whom he sees quite unselfishly: he never makes the mistake of assuming that honour has been satisfied if he merely records a pretty face. His second wife is undoubtedly pretty, but what he captures about her is tenderness, vulnerability and at the same time inner strength and even a slight touch of asperity. A certain Frenchness in the light, feathery touch does not come amiss in doing justice to his women's surface charms, but the sharpness of perception and warmth of sympathy belong to Ramsay alone.

Scottish National Portrait Gallery, 1 Queen Street, Edinburgh (021-556 8921) Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm; during the festival Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm. Until September 27, admission £3, concessions £1.50. Sponsored by Mobil.

EDINBURGH CHOICE

● **DUTCH ART AND SCOTLAND:** There is not only an Old Alliance between France and Scotland; the Scots and the Dutch have always had a special relationship, with much exchange of art and scholarship, and many distinguished Dutch paintings have entered Scottish collections in the last three centuries. Some of the works have remained in private collections ever since and are virtually unknown to the public. This Edinburgh Festival exhibition remedies that with an amazing assemblage of distinguished work, including also paintings such as Cuypp's *Riding Lesson* and Rembrandt's *Self Portrait as St Paul*, which have left Scotland but are now borrowed back as a reminder of departed glories.

National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound, Edinburgh (031-556 8921). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm; during the festival, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm, August 13 to October 18. Admission £3, concessions £1.50.

● **JAMES PRYDE:** Best remembered today as half of the poster designing team the Beggarstaff Brothers (the other being his brother-in-law William Nicholson), James Pryde also had a distinguished career of his own as a painter. He was a native of Edinburgh, and something of the city's mystery and romance entered into his work, which often has a faintly theatrical feel to it. Particularly memorable are the series of shadowy interiors in which humans are dwarfed by giant four-poster beds. Also, portraits of notables of his time: Ellen Terry, Sir Henry Irving and Lady Ottoline Morrell.

Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Belford Road, Edinburgh (031-556 8921). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm; during the festival, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm, August 13 to October 18. Admission £3, concessions £1.50.

● **MIRO SCULPTURES:** The centenary of Joan Miró's birth falls next year but is being celebrated by the Edinburgh Festival this year. Miró is primarily known as a painter, but in his later years especially he became interested in sculpture, and all 72 sculptures in the show were made between 1962 and 1978; all of them come on loan from the Fondation Maeght in St-Paul-de-Vence.

Royal Scottish Academy, The Mound, Edinburgh (031-225 6671). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, Sun, 2-5pm, until September 15. Admission £3, concessions £1.50.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

LONDON GALLERIES: ARCHITECTURE

Calculating the leap from graphs to girders

Marcus Binney welcomes an overview of the work of architectural engineer Peter Rice

Peter Rice is as near an artistic genius as the sober and calculating world of engineering has produced in half a century. Here is a man who seems to have a Mozartian facility to find constantly inventive solutions to any structural problem.

"The architects had described him to me as an outstanding mathematician who overcame all problems," says Robert Bordaz, president of the board entrusted with building Paris's Pompidou Centre. "Instead of someone clean-shaven and cold in aspect, I found myself opposite a hirsute individual, looking more like a poet or an artist."

Yet when the insurance companies demanded irrefutable proof that the daring structure would stand up, according to Bordaz, "Rice responded with a display of intellectual gymnastics which I had great trouble following, despite my mathematical pretensions, and thus triumphed over all objections."

The virtue of the current RIBA exhibition devoted to Rice's work, and its slim companion book, is that it provides a penetrating insight into an intoxicating mind.

What sets Rice apart from most engineers is his constant desire to innovate and experiment in a field where tried and trusted solutions are often preferred. Sir Richard Rogers, architect of the Pompidou Centre, explains: "I have witnessed Peter time and again convincing the most sceptical client that a more innovative solution would carry less risk than a mundane one, because to innovate one must start from basic principles, with nothing taken for granted." Not for nothing did Rice begin as site engineer for the Sydney Opera House.

The adventurousness is evident in his zaniest project yet,



His ideas in action: the IBM Pavilion, on which Peter Rice worked, toured for three years in the early 1980s

the Moon Theatre at St André des Bueges in Provence, lit entirely by reflected moonlight. What looks like a Third World shanty town is a complex series of mirrors which track the moon during each performance. With the latest refinements these should achieve an intensification of 400 times the light of the full moon, powering spots, side-lights and footlights. Computer calculations must be made afresh each night.

Part of Rice's talent is that he constantly looks back to history and sideways to nature. Having contributed in 1981 to Renzo Piano's spectacular IBM Pavilion, a "demountable" structure (now destroyed) exploring the use of polycarbonate, Rice uses a historical analogy to explain his contribution to Piano's design for the new Kansai international terminal in Osaka, Japan. "Renzo saw a giant bird or plane alighting on the artificial island five kilometres out in the bay. To this I added the spirit and detailing of the early 20th-century Blériot biplanes to help make the transition in scale to those who will use it." The girders of Rice's roof trusses have the V-shape profile of the struts that held the early plane wings together. Similarly Rice says it was the vast unsupported wall of the

Ajuda Palace in Lisbon that gave him the idea for the Pavilion of the Future in this year's Seville Expo. "I thought that if it had stood for 200 years it should be possible to design something like it." He uses natural stone for a daring series of free-standing arches.

His interest in nature is revealed in his enthusiastic study of the engineering of spiders' webs. His collaborator is the zoologist Dr F. Vollrath, who recalls Rice's view that: "The spider's web is a perfect example of a lightweight net that should lead us to insights into the engineering of net structures. After all, the web has gone through 180 million years of research and development."

So far, Rice says disarmingly: "We have discovered that the spider is using the techniques of the late-20th-century engineer, but with much more elegance and precision."

One key to Rice's approach is his desire to bring back personality into architecture. He says that the process of building has been smothered "by the language of the standardised industrial product, the girder and the tube".

His structural daring is evident in the new TGV station he is designing for Charles de Gaulle Airport outside Paris with the architect Paul Andreu. This is the modern counterpart of the great all-over iron and glass roofs of Victorian railway termini, but the characteristic arched profile is turned upside down to become a crescent, supported not at the side but by fan-shaped pylons at the centre, and tied by cables at the side.

In the post-war years the focus of new architecture has often been largely on enclosing space. Rice, by contrast, has been at the forefront of using new materials to virtuoso effect. In Britain the best

known examples are the Teflon roof canopies he designed for the new stand at Lord's cricket ground with the architect Michael Hopkins.

The Irish-born Rice first joined Ove Arup in London in 1956. But his major commissions have been increasingly in France, Italy and Japan. Recently he has been seriously ill, but was able to attend the ceremony at which he was awarded this year's Royal Gold Medal by the RIBA. Almost all his life he has worked jointly with architects. Now he should be given a commission for a great solo engineering project. Without it, late-20th-century civil engineering in Britain will seem like the railways without Brunel.

Exploring Materials: The Work of Peter Rice at RIBA Gallery, 66 Portland Place, London W1 (071-580 5533). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until August 25.

TELEVISION REVIEW

How the west was wandered, and a paradise was lost

As the French film director, Jean-Luc Godard, once remarked: "Le Moral, c'est le travelling." He was right in the sense that morality is picked up along the way — and in the sense that travel forces instant moral reaction to the unexpected. Last night's third instalment of *Early Travellers in North America* (BBC 2) looked at the shocked response of 19th-century travellers to what was becoming modern America.

Dickens was struck by the cultivation of an Indian encounter: "He had read many books and Scots poetry appeared to have left a strong impression upon his mind. I asked him what he thought of Congress. He answered with a smile that it wanted dignity in an Indian's eyes." Rudyard Kipling was depressed by the listless descent of tribesmen into alcoholism. Robert Louis Stevenson told the tale of a hair-raising brush with Indians "so close that we could hear their tomahawks jingle".

Catherine Parr Traill, an early victim of the "Canada Fever" of the 1820s and 1830s and author of the *Female Emigrant's Guide*, recalled with awe the native music: "A chorus of rich voices filled the little hut with a melody which thrilled us to our very hearts. The hymn was sung in the Indian tongue, a language that is peculiarly sweet and soft in its cadences. I wish you'd been there to witness the scene."

This series has attempted bravely to translate written recollections to television, using the familiar device of the talking head and nodding in the direction of period dress, with well-chosen images of contemporary America flickering into view. The overall impact is not quite enough to sustain the attention for much longer than a quarter of an hour — anthologies are things to be browsed through at leisure, rather than watched

sequentially. But the idea is highly imaginative: to understand the beginnings of the greatest power on Earth in a chamber setting, through the eyes of early idealists and observers.

The predominance of women in the series — Traill, her sister Susanna Moodie and Frances Trollope — says something about the role of travel in the birth of feminist emancipation. Liberated geographically, these remarkable women evidently felt free to speak their minds and above all to put their disgust at the fate of the Indians on the record.

In some ways, little has changed. These travellers were burdened by the same sort of helpless guilt about the fate of

the Indians as their successors, a century before the fashionable angst of *Dances with Wolves* or *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*. Certainly, Moodie spoke for future generations of the American intelligentsia when she wrote: "Often have I grieved that people with such generous impulses should be degraded and corrupted... A mysterious destiny involves and hangs over, pressing them into the wilderness and slowly and surely sweeping them from the Earth." Nineteenth-century writers were as disgusted by the decline of the Indian as today's politically correct intelligentsia, and just as powerless to do anything about it.

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Lure for the British angler: the river Risle in Normandy is reckoned by at least one authority to offer better fishing than anywhere in England

The compleat pêcheur



A VAST American encyclopaedia of fishing published recently gave French fly fishing short shrift. Much of the best trout water was, it reported, private and the rest rated less than two paragraphs. In a sport dominated by the English-speaking world France seems largely ignored.

And yet France is the country where they invented *truite meunière*. The French have every right to protest that once again the Anglo-Saxon world is conspiring against them. Perhaps it is snobbery. What is the upright English dry fly fisherman with his fly box of Blue Watery Olives and Lunns Particulars to make of anglers who use flies such as *Peute*, a word from the Franco-Comté dialect that means 'The Ugly One', *La Loue*, the Lout (tied with feathers the colour of 'rose champagne'), or *Cul de Canard*, Duck's Rump? Can you take seriously some-

France offers good sport — and good value — for trout fishers, Stewart Tendler says

one who fishes with a fly made from the feathers of a rare form of vulture? It might be wise. The chalk downs and geology which produce fat trout and world famous fishing on rivers such as the Test and Itchen continue across the Channel, which means that Normandy is anything but a piscatorial backwater. Jean-Paul Pequegnot, the author of a book on French flies, claims that the upper reaches of the Seine produce one of the most handsome chalk streams in the world. Charles Ritz, a celebrated French writer and angler, went further and claimed his cherished stretch of the Risle in Normandy was better than anything to be found in England.

Rivers listed by Dr Pequegnot throughout France include the mighty Rhône, the Ain, the Altier, the Guers and the Steir and the Jet near Quimper. Jon Beer, an English angling writer, has fished on the Moselle, and the annual *Where to Fish*, edited by D.A. Orton acknowledges, in little more than a page on French fishing, that trout are available at almost every turn from the Savoy Alps to the Pyrenees.

According to Mr Beer, France has the added charm that fishing is not surrounded by the sort of class-consciousness which still dogs a lot of

British river trout fishing. It is unlikely that a French club would emulate one Wiltshire club which recently demanded references for potential new members. The French claim that no one has ever quite managed to replace the aristocracy's control of the rivers, lost in 1789.

Getting on a good river would be reasonably cheap, but it is fraught with bureaucracy. To fish anywhere in France the angler must pay a national *taxe piscicole*, which costs FF40 (£4.10). Rivers are divided into two categories. The first category covers headwaters and rivers suitable for salmon, trout and grayling, and the second usually covers the lower stretches of rivers populated mainly by coarse fish. An angler must pay an annual supplement of FF87 (£9), in addition to his national tax, to fish on category one water.

Much of Normandy is in private hands and fishing might be possible by arrangement. Ker and Downey, a London company specialising in fishing, offers days on the Risle close to the Acau stretch beloved by Charles Ritz. The fishing includes bed and breakfast at a country hotel and starts at £110 for one night and one day's fishing plus payment for a licence.

Outside Normandy, stretches of the

rivers are divided between local clubs. The angler must join the local club of the area, called an Association Agréée de Pêche et Pisciculture (AAPP). He or she may also have to pay an additional annual amount to the local federation of clubs. In all, this might come to £10-20 on top of the national tax and supplement. Anglers will need a passport photograph to put on their membership card. Last year Mr Beer fished the Moselle for a total of about FF270 (£28.10).

Further information available from the French Tourist Office, 178 Piccadilly, London W1V 0AL. The Conseil Supérieur de la Pêche publishes *Pêche en France* from 10 Rue Peclet, Paris 75015. Trout and Salmon magazine publishes articles on fishing in France and carries advertisements for fishing holidays in France. Ker and Downey are at 14 Old Bond Street, London W1X 3DB. French Fishing Files is published by Nick Lyons Books, New York and is available in Britain at £15.25. Where to Fish is published by Thomas Harmsworth, price £18.95.

TOMORROW

In Weekend Times:
Shona Crawford Poole on
the majesty of the Alps
when the snow melts away

Properties of the week

FRANCE

WHAT YOU CAN GET FOR £45,000 TO £47,000

For £45,000 (including agent's fees) you can buy this charming pair of stone cottages in a peaceful hamlet, five minutes inland from the British coast at Palmpol, an old town with a lively fishing harbour and yacht marina. The nearest ferry port is Roscoff, an hour's drive away.

The two small stone houses with slate roofs, set in a courtyard and separated by a corridor which includes an entrance hall, WC, bathroom and workshop, have been modernised and would be suitable for letting. The cottage (on the left of the picture) has a ground floor bedroom



with open stone fireplace and exposed beams, plus a bedroom in the loft. The second cottage has a large living room, with corner kitchen and

stairs to an attic bedroom. The United Kingdom agent is Property France, Portway, Wantage, Oxfordshire (tel: 0235-772211).

A long drive south and west in the Pyrénées Atlantiques, £46,000 (including agency fees) will pay for this partially renovated village house, a few miles south-west of Pau, the capital city of ancient Béarn in the foothills of the Pyrenees. The Atlantic coast and airport at Biarritz can be reached in 90 minutes.

The old house has been renovated to a high standard, retaining many original features, with exposed stone walls, a new roof, floors and windows. It needs another £10,000 spent on a new septic tank, replumbing, bathroom and WC. It comprises an open-plan kitchen/living



room, with an old stone sink and fireplace, flagstone floor and beamed ceiling; four bedrooms and space for a bathroom, and comes with a

garage and small garden. The agent for the United Kingdom is Sifer, Phoenix House, 86 Fulham High Street, London SW6 (tel: 071-384 1200).

Fork out another £1,000 — £47,000 (including agency and notary fees) — and you can be the proud owner of this imposing country house, not far from the market town of Antrain in lower Normandy. The ferry port of St Malo is an hour's drive and the beaches around Mont St Michel 30 minutes away.

The old stone house, overlooking open countryside, is in good condition, with a new roof, and ready to move into. It has an entrance hall, living/dining room with oak parquet flooring and open fireplace, plus an old-fashioned kitchen at ground level. A winding oak staircase leads to the first floor, which has three bedrooms, one with



ensuite bath/WC; there is a fourth bedroom and attic space above. The price includes a separate garage-workshop and a large garden

with fruit trees. The United Kingdom agent is Normandy & Brittany Establishments, 62 Chesson Road, London W14 (Tel: 071-381 4433).

GLOSSARY

La pêche à la mouche — fly fishing
La pêche au lancer — spinning
La pêche au vif — live baiting
Une canne — a fishing rod
Une moulinet — a reel
Une soie — a fly line
"Vous auriez dû voir celui qui s'est échappé!" — "You should have seen the one that got away!"

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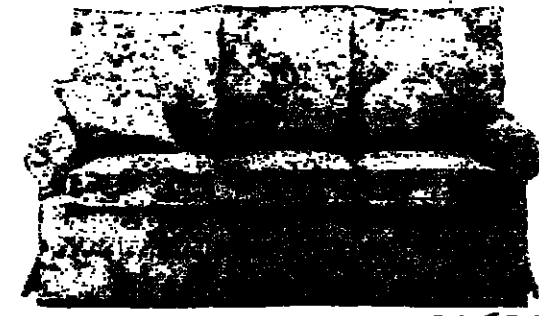
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Majesty in Brittany

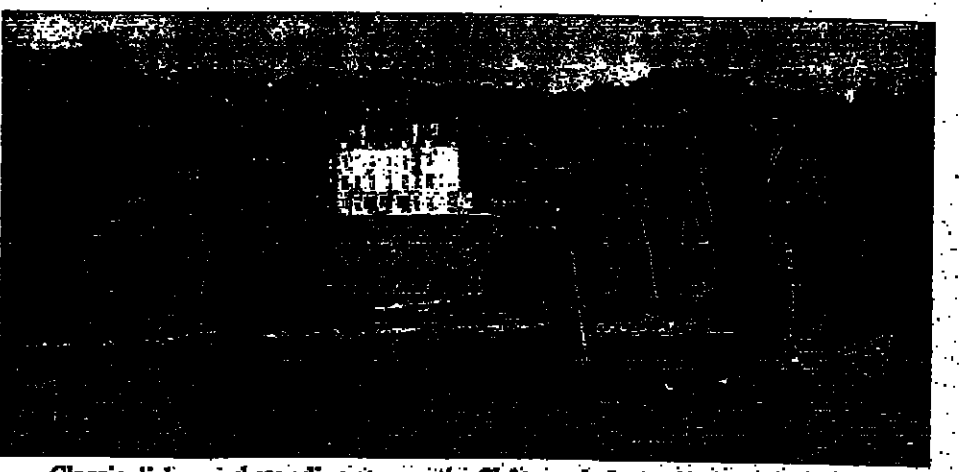
The Château de Locquénolé in the Relais & Châteaux group is a fine hotel at Hennebont in the south-east corner of Brittany, overlooking an arm of the Atlantic Ocean. It is a spacious mansion set in a 250-acre park and is renowned as a gastronomic rendezvous.

The hotel is well situated for visiting the heart of prehistoric Brittany, Carnac, which is only a few miles along the coast. Here you can see almost 3,000 menhirs, or standing stones, many of them arranged in what look like the foundations of enormous cathedrals. A legend has it that they are all Roman soldiers turned into stone by St Cornelius, who was a third-

century Pope. You can get a more modern view of their origins and meaning in the Carnac prehistory museum, which was voted European museum of the year in 1987.

Nearby you can bathe at Carnac-Plage, an agreeable garden town. Here you are near the Gulf of Morbihan, dotted with islands and yachts, and vast oysterbeds that come into view when the tide is out.

The owner of the Château de Locquénolé, Alette de la Sablière, is one of the *grandes dames* of the world of French hotels. When you return from your excursions, what you will find waiting to restore you are the great classic dishes of France — caviar, lobster, game.



Classic dishes and standing stones: the Château de Locquénolé, near Carnac



Think about it, and you might be a winner

Can mental exercise help an athlete to win an Olympic gold?
Jon Stock looks at the psychology of success — and failure

The performances of room-mates Linford Christie and Colin Jackson in the Barcelona Olympics could not have been more different. Few who saw Christie's victory in the men's 100 metres will forget his pop-eyed look of steady concentration. "All I had to do was focus," he said afterwards in a masterful understatement. Jackson, on the other hand crashed and stumbled his way to finish a miserable seventh in the men's 110 metres hurdles. "It was the first time I have gone into a race as favourite," he said. "All I had to do was go out and perform."

One of the most significant things to have emerged from these Olympics is the importance of mental health as well as physical fitness. The ability to maintain self-belief and cope with pressure is vital. Jackson was the fastest man this year at his event. Everyone thought he was going to win. Everyone, perhaps, except himself.

"How many times has Jackson gone over those hurdles and not hit them? It was not a technical problem in the final. Quite clearly there was something else in the jigsaw which was not right," says Lew Hardy, a sports psychologist at the University of Wales in Bangor.

After the race, his friends and the press were amazed to see Jackson relaxed and smiling. The feeling was that anyone as happy as he seemed couldn't have been properly prepared for the race. Had he dodged the pressure by telling himself the race wasn't that important?

Christie was also smiling when he crossed the line, but no one could doubt his mental preparation. He talked afterwards of his tunnel vision, the mental ability to ignore false starts and concentrate on the running lane before him.

"I watched Christie's eyes in the semi-final and the final," says Dr Barry Cripps, a sports psychologist working with the British Olympic team. "Psychologically, he was a different person in the final. His eyes were fixed, staring towards the end of the track. As soon as he took

off from the blocks, he knew he was going to win."

Dr Cripps and Dr Hardy are part of a growing breed of psychologists who are interested in the mental health of sportsmen and how it affects their performances. It is now widely accepted that very little separates today's top athletes. Judged by past performance, any of the eight finalists in the men's 100 metres could have won. Where Christie differed from the others, according to the sports psychologists, was in his attitude. He was able to absorb the pressure and make it work to his advantage.

The ability to cope with stress has implications for us all. No one would turn down the opportunity to

'Before the competition I got them to think through what it feels like to win'

walk into a stressful work environment with Christie's resolve. But how much effect do sports psychologists actually have? Christie relies on his coach, Ron Roddan, rather than the coach, for his mental preparation. "Mr Roddan has worked with him for 12 years, acting as his mentor, and offers much more than a qualified sports psychologist provides."

The psychologist has become a feature of the sporting establishment in Britain only recently. This is the first year the British Olympic Association has included official psychologists in the team. There are two, Dr Brian Miller and Dr Richard Butler, working at the Barcelona headquarters and 12 others who have worked on a private basis with individual competitors prior to the games. According to a spokeswoman from the British Olympic Association, Sally Gunnell spent some time

talking with Dr Miller before her victory in the 400 metres hurdles.

For many years, psychologists were dismissed as unqualified purveyors of phoney "psycho-babble": anyone could set themselves up as a guru. Recent scientific research has, however, given sports psychology some much needed respectability. And today's sportsmen are becoming so competitive that they are prepared to try anything to give them the edge. In 1990, the British Association for Sports Sciences silenced some of the critics by setting up a register of 61 accredited sports psychologists (members have a second degree in psychology).

The psychology establishment, in turn, has been equally wary of the sporting world. At the end of this year, the British Psychological Society (members have a first degree in psychology) plans to set up a section for sport. The decision was taken after a prolonged discussion.

The main problem psychologists have is that their results are not always tangible, providing sceptics with plenty of ammunition. Leading figures such as Frank Dick, the national coaching director, and Brendan Foster refuse to have any time for them. "The only motivation I ever needed," Foster says, "was to sit in the changing room and say 'I'm going to win'."

But there is clearly a need for some sort of training other than the physical and technical. Why, for example, does one of the world's most gifted batsmen, Graeme Hick, perform so well for Worcestershire, and fall time and again at Test match level? What went wrong with England's much hailed rugby team when they "froze" against Scotland at Murrayfield in 1990 and lost the grand slam? And why did Jeremy Bates produce a double fault when he was serving for a place in the quarter final at Wimbledon? According to Dr Hardy, it is all to do with how humans react to anxiety.

"When you get anxious, two things happen," he says. "You have worrying thoughts, and you get physiologically aroused — butterflies in the stomach, sweaty hands,



Focusing on victory: Linford Christie had the mental ability to concentrate solely on winning

tight muscles, adrenalin. There is an important interaction between the two states. "If you get the physiological effects when you are not worried, your performance will not be harmed. If, however, you get the physiological arousal and you are worried, the effects can be catastrophic."

Dr Hardy's conclusions challenge one of the fundamental laws of psychology. Robert Yerkes and J.D. Dodson stated in 1908 that individuals perform tasks best

when they are "moderately aroused". The Yerkes-Dodson Law, Dr Hardy claims, failed to make the distinction between cognitive and physiological arousal. "It is a gross simplification," he says. In his opinion, the individual can be very aroused physiologically and still perform well, provided that he is not worried. The most important issue for the individual is to be in control of the situation.

There is a caveat, however. When someone is physiologically aroused,

for example, biochemical reactions in the body include the release of adrenalin, noradrenalin and cortisol. "There is strong evidence to suggest that cortisol can be damaging in large quantities," Dr Hardy says. "There is up to the minute, less substantiated evidence to suggest that you don't get such large quantities of cortisol if you perceive you are in control."

Dr Richard Dienstbier, an American psychologist, goes one stage further. He claims that adren-

alin is positively healthy, supporting the common theory that athletes need that rush of adrenalin to perform well. It is a question of preventing the accompanying release of cortisol.

Dr Cripps has been working in recent months with the Olympic archery team, which won a bronze medal in Barcelona on Tuesday. A day earlier, Simon Terry, an 18-year-old, came third in the individual competition, the first time a Briton has won an Olympic medal for individual archery since 1908.

"Before the competition, I got them to imagine themselves with the medal around the neck, touching it, thinking through what it actually feels like to be a winner," Dr Cripps says. "For years and years in archery, we have been concentrating on technique, equipment and fitness. The last unknown is the mind. Archery is a mind game."

Surely the best example in sport of the mind working with the body is the archers' ability to slow down their heart rate through breathing exercises. It allows them to lose the arrows between beats, which can drop from 60 to 40 per minute. "They breathe in, hold their breath, and breathe out slowly, saying to themselves, 'calm, calm, calm, easy, easy,'" Dr Cripps says. "It is similar to eastern forms of meditation."

Another way in which psychologists cope with an athlete's anxiety is to develop behavioural consistency. The brain can, to a certain extent, be "programmed" to carry out motor functions. In layman's terms, the sportsman does something "with their eyes shut", by mentally repeating the activity, or visualising it until it becomes second nature.

Carol Seheult is a sports psychologist who worked closely with Aston Villa football club last season. Four years ago at the Seoul Olympics, she helped Mark Rowlands to win an unexpected bronze medal in the 3000 metres steeplechase. "Visualisation" is central to her approach.

"It is a technique used by most top athletes, in fact it is used by people in all walks of life," she says. "I prefer to use the word 'imagining'. It is the ability to recreate mentally the perception of the performance you want to achieve. You aim to recreate the sights, sounds, smells of what you want to experience."

In the steeplechase, for instance, the water-jump is quite different from the other hurdles. There is a specific technique required. The runner will 'image' how to move his arm, how to place his foot, and so on, perhaps recalling a previous, successful jump."

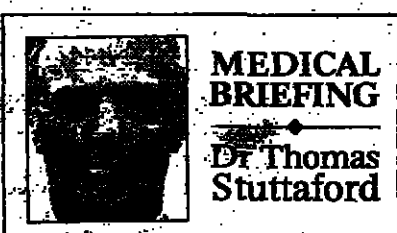
"Visualising" or "imagining", like other psychological techniques, is far from foolproof. No doubt, Colin Jackson spent the previous night jumping hurdles perfectly. A bit of wishful thinking, though, is healthy. For some people, dreams are all they are left with.

Born, or borne, to be gay?

THE workers on one of the grander East Anglian estates, a group of Californian scientists and many homosexuals, are all united in their belief that homosexuals are born, not made. Neuro-anatomists from the University of California medical school in Los Angeles and the nearby Salk Institute have recently produced evidence from post-mortem studies which, in their opinion, confirm the belief that homosexuality is the result of nature, not nurture.

The estate workers speak from personal experience. They have been able to watch generations of the local squire's family grow up and have concluded that the usually accepted figure of 4 to 5 per cent of men being exclusively homosexual, and another 10 per cent who have had an occasional homosexual contact, can be a gross understatement. The locals suggest that the Book of Genesis is oversimplified, and that God created man, woman and the squire's family.

The anatomists, uninterested in gossip, claim to have found physical changes in the human brain. Doctors have never been certain if the deciding factor is homosexuality is hereditary, the consequence of the hormonal environment to



MEDICAL BRIEFING
Dr Thomas Stafford

which the baby is subjected while in the uterus, or the later environment, whether at home or at school.

To the chagrin of homosexual generations of medical students were taught that most males have the capability to develop homosexual tendencies and that these could be uncovered by having a detached, unaffectionate father and a dominant, emotionally demanding mother.

The discussion on the causes of homosexuality is a classic battle between the supporters of nature versus nurture. For the past 20 years the school of thought which favours nurture has been ridiculed by homosexuals who believed that they were born with this proclivity, but lacked the evidence to prove their point. The

nature lobby feels that Dr Simon Le Vay, a neuro-anatomist and a homosexual, has provided some of the evidence by demonstrating that the interstitial nucleus of the anterior hypothalamus, the part of the brain known to have a role in sexual arousal, was appreciably smaller in homosexual men.

Two other anatomists, Dr Laura Allen and Dr Roger Gorski, have now shown that another cluster of nerves, one which connects the right and left-hand sides of the brain, is larger in homosexual men than in heterosexuals. The scientists suggest that the immature brain is essentially female and needs a specific environment in utero to become male.

Other scientists have criticised the study, not because Dr Le Vay is homosexual, but because the anatomists have used the brains of homosexuals who have died of AIDS, and AIDS is known to affect 90 per cent of brains with, on average, a 40 per cent loss of neurones of the frontal cortex before death. They imply that to draw firm conclusions from a disease-ravaged brain would be akin to judging how a telephone network operates by studying one in a heavily bombed town.

What's up, doc?

FOOD has been in the news this week. One well-publicised report said that some people become so obsessed with the modern fad of eating carrots that they turn themselves yellow as a result of the amount of beta carotene in their diet. It is even said that some suffer psychological withdrawal symptoms if denied them.

The practice is not one to be recommended, but it is doubtful if the carrot eaters are doing themselves any lasting harm, although they may develop yellow palms to their hands and soles to their feet as well as a slightly tanned-looking face. Taken in reasonable doses, beta carotene is recommended; it, like vitamin C and E, is thought to be cardio-protective and to reduce the incidence of some malignant diseases.

News, too, of garlic. Dr John Reckless, an expert on hyperlipidaemia, the condition in which people have high blood fat and the diseases which stem from this, reports that garlic really does lower the blood fats, both cholesterol and triglycerides. The bad news is that large doses are needed — seven to 28 cloves a day.

Cholesterol counter

OVERSEAS doctors claim that the British attachment to a high-cholesterol diet, exemplified by roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, and fish and chips, has become a matter of national pride. The British, it seems, would like, even if they don't always have time, to demonstrate their patriotism by having bacon and eggs for breakfast.

Few doctors deny that there are many people to whom a relatively high cholesterol diet is unimportant; their metabolism can cope with it and their blood cholesterol remains low. But it is equally true that raised cholesterol, high blood pressure and smoking are three important risk factors for coronary thrombosis, and each can be treated.

Swedish workers have reported in the *British Medical Journal* that in men, but not women, there is a relationship between lower cholesterol levels and suicide. This relationship is evident only in the first seven years of the survey, suggesting that the danger time may come when cholesterol levels are first lowered.

British doctors who have studied the effects of a high-cholesterol blood level on the incidence of heart disease are

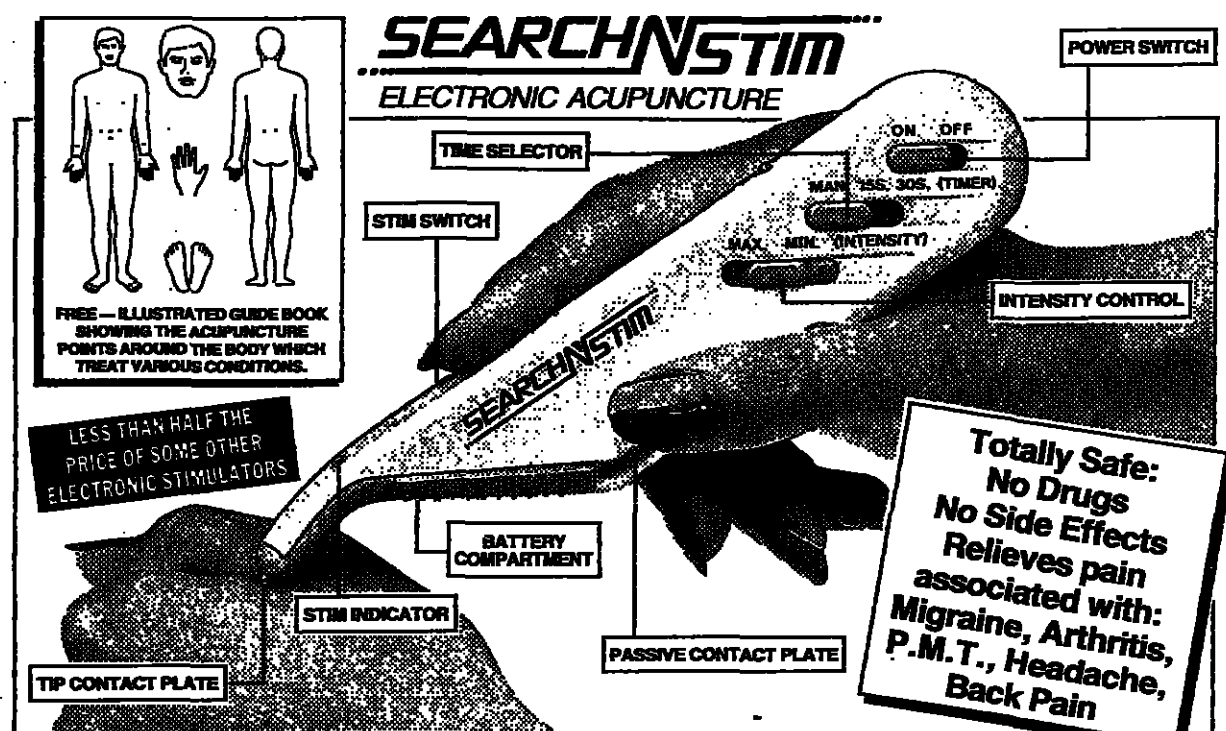


critical of the report. Their view, encouraged by a recent letter in *The Lancet* which showed that in many countries there was no long-term relationship between low cholesterol levels and suicide, could almost be summed up as "Interesting, but so what?" They admit that the finding deserves investigation, but say that the increase in suicide was minimal and that death from heart attacks in patients with a high blood cholesterol level is very common. They say that the report highlights a possible 'debtor' factor in the cost

benefit analysis of cholesterol lowering, but ignores the much greater advantages enjoyed by patients who reduce their cholesterol. They also cast doubts on the methodology of the study which, they say, does not show causality or make allowances for all the factors that might influence the result.

The critics suggest that it is as if people should be discouraged from enjoying the benefits of a high fish diet by a report which dwells on the occasional cases of a diner who choked on a fish bone.

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Impressive skill and flair of the Master of the Rolls

e Rolls

paid to Lord Donaldson's outstanding qualities on the Bench: his concise and courteous approach, his clarity of expression, his utterly open and unpretentious approach, and his pioneering procedural reforms.

The solicitors of England wished to offer him profound thanks for all his outstanding work as the guardian of their profession: always approachable, always firm and always fair.

To all his tasks in relation to solicitors he had given generously of his time. He had been an ever open door, a ready source of sound advice and a true friend and guide.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS thanked the Lord Chancellor for attending and all those who had spoken for their comments.

The statutory connection of the Master of the Rolls with the solicitors' profession was very important. It enabled him to act as a linkman between all three branches of the profession, as a unique example of fusion. As a result he had a very real appreciation of their problems and aspirations and hoped he had helped in solving some of the problems and in fulfilling their aspirations.

Turning to judicial reform, his

Lordship was "divorced" from consideration should be given to whether English judges might not benefit from professional assistance partly, but not wholly on the American model.

While it was for the Government and not the judiciary to decide what level of public expenditure should be allocated to the administration of justice, it was his duty to inform and warn both the government and the public if the level of resources was such that the standard of service which the courts could offer was likely to decline.

Last autumn he had given a warning that delays would increase unless there were either

He would further warn that his successor might have to allocate more Lords Justices to the work of the Criminal Division, whose customers were, like those of the Civil Division, on lengthening waiting lists, but who, unlike those of the Civil Division, had to wait in prison. He regretted not being able to provide his successor with a better inheritance.

LORD JUSTICE NOLAN said the prosecution case would be deferred for three months.

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LIFE & TIMES FRIDAY AUGUST 7 1992

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 **The Channel Four Daily** (1331088)
- 9.25 **Gopher!** Children's entertainment (r) (s) (7320649)
- 9.55 **Get Smart.** Don Adams stars as incompetent secret agent Max Smart, in this episode framed for shooting a bank clerk. (9520945)
- 10.25 **Film: Looking on the Bright Side** (1932, b/w) starring Gracie Fields and Richard Dolman. Early and minor films within which she plays a singing manicurist who loses her sweetheart when he is seduced by a conman. Directed by Basil Dean and Graham Cutts (2709552)
- 11.55 **Pete Smith Specialities.** A day in the life of a Hollywood animal talent scout (r) (9805971)
- 12.00 **Land of Hope.** Epic Australian drama serial (r) (81804)
- 1.00 **Seasons Street.** Pre-school learning series (r) (90552)
- 2.00 **Love Lucy** (b/w). Classic comedy starring Lucille Ball (2656)
- 2.30 **Film: Bachelor of Hearts** (1958, b/w) starring Ronald Lewis, Nancy Kruger and Sylvia Syms. Creaky romantic comedy following the progress of a German exchange student at Cambridge. Directed by Wolf Rilla (30494304)
- 4.10 **Vis-a-Vis.** A German short about two lonely people living in flats on opposite sides of the street who eventually meet (r) (s) (1087484)
- 4.30 **Cowdownland.** Richard Whitley with another round of the words and numbers game (939)
- 5.00 **History.** Death of a Democrat. A repeat of Mondak's documentary about the suspicious death of Jan Masaryk, the Czechoslovak foreign minister, in 1948. (Teletext) (3823)
- 6.00 **Blossom.** Comedy series about a teenage girl living in an otherwise all-male Los Angeles household (s) (804)
- 6.30 **Happy Days.** Classic comedy set in Milwaukee during the rock 'n' roll years. Starring Henry Winkler. (Teletext) (848)
- 7.00 **Channel 4 News** with Dermot Murnaghan and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather (660194)
- 7.50 **First Reaction** (960736)



Teenage crush: Chloe Newsome, Simon Gregson (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Can Alcock separate Vicki (Chloe Newsome) and Steve (John Gregson)? (Oracle) (246)

8.00 Around Whicker's World: The Ultimate Package. The third of a four-part series in which the veteran traveller is on a package holiday with 87 fellow passengers visiting 14 countries in 34 days. This week's itinerary covers Australia, New Zealand, Tahiti and Easter Island (Oracle) (6755)

9.00 The Canadian Affair. The second and final part on the mini-series, based on one of Canada's most controversial murder cases. Four suspects are charged but only one is convicted. Concludes after the news. (Oracle) (6991)

9.00 Weather at Ten with Trevor McDonald and Carol Barnes. (Oracle) Weather at Ten with Trevor McDonald. News and weather (41755)

9.00 The 100th Anniversary of the Suffragette. (Oracle) (68484)

1.30 Sledge Hammer! Spoof detective comedy series starring David Rasche (64754)

2.00 Hooked! A repeat of the series on drug addiction. With Stuart Cosgrove (75840)

2.30am Married... with Children. American domestic comedy series (7404)

1.00 Rescue 311. William Shatner introduces another selection of real-life dramas involving the American emergency services (61798)

2.00 American Gladiators. Tests of strength and strategy (7037514)

1.00 CinemaAttractions. The latest news from the American movie scene, presented by Charlie Tuna (95955)

4.30 Raw Power. Rick Van der Venne's magazine (5823088)

4.35 Matchroom Snooker 1992 (9365885)

5.30 TIT Morning News with Phil Roman (11069). Ends at 6.00

0.00 **Brookside.** Superior soap set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (3/2000)

9.30 **In My Mind.** Mavis in the fourth of her eight-part series Mavis Nicolson is in the countryside with photographer and environmental campaigner, Fay Godwin (revised repeat) (Teletext) (9/07)

9.00 **Cheers.** More comic bar-nom angst. To the consternation of Sam, Carla's former husband decides he would like her back. Starring Ted Danson and Rhies Periman (r) (Teletext) (86/20)

9.30 **How Does Your Garden Grow?** Philip Wood and David Wilson with Jim Connelley, a horticultural treasure trove on CD. (Teletext) (82/53)

0.00 **Roseanne.** Wiscracking domestic comedy starring Roseanne Arnold and John Goodman. (Teletext) (3/56620)

3.00 **Hale and Pace.** Comedy sketches from the duo's first television series (r) (7/2668)

1.00 **A Stab in the Back.** An oblique look at the week's news by David Badger, Michaela Gove and Nancy Mackay (3) (11/15)

1.00 **Police: Street With No Name (1943, b/w)**

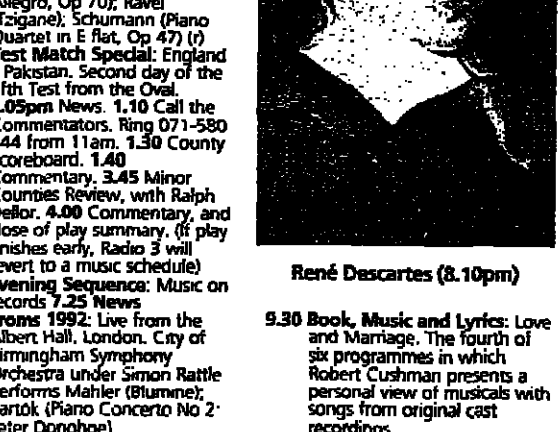
● **CHOICE:** The undercover agent brought in to smash a criminal gang is not the most original of Hollywood scenarios, but this is one of its best versions. The film belonged to a series of quasi-documentary thrillers made by Fox, its realism underpinned by location shooting and the casting of real FBI officers in supporting roles. Starring, an actor I still remember, was the day, was the infiltrator and Wilder and Wilder in the long bus. Wilder has just made his sensational debut as the sniggering psychopath in *Kiss Of Death* and the studio was determined to cash in. The result was another violent, obsessed psychotic, apt to beat his wife and convinced that fresh air was dangerous. The director is William Keighley, an unpretentious craftsman who recognised the virtues of a crisp pace and a coherent narrative (466894)

1.10 **Dead Men Tell No Tales.** A series of dark thoughts (b/w). Supernatural tale of a timid bank clerk, played by Dick York, who, after an accident, discovers that he can read other people's thoughts (848075). Ends at 1.40

TV WALES[illegible]

RAI

5:30	Shipping Forecast 6:30 News	4:05	Kaleidoscope previews an exhibition about the painted nude at the Tate Gallery, investigates a new initiative in arts education, and reviews Alan Franke's play <i>The Mother Tongue</i> (s)
6:00	6.00 Farming Today 6:25 Prayer for the Day, with the Most Rev Thomas Winning, 6:30 News, with John Humphreys and John MacGregor, End 6:30, 7:00	4:45	Short Story: Private Tutor by M. P. Buse, by Anita Dast. Read by M. P. Buse (s)
7:00	7:00 News, 7:05 Weather 7:55 Weather 8:45 The Tiger and Other Stories: How can I Get in Touch with Persia? A haunting story by Janet Fearn (s) 8:55 Weather	5:00	PM with Valerie Singleton and Wendy Austin 5:30 Shipping Forecast 5:55 Weather
8:00	8:00 News	6:00	6:00 Clock News 6:30
9:00	9:00 Desert Island Discs: Sue Lowrie's castaway is Alan Bleasdale (s) (r)	6:30	A Hack Goes West Dylan Winter continues his trek along the Oregon trail (s) (r)
10:00	10:05 The Village, presented by Nigel Farn	7:00	News
11:00	11:00 News, Dear Diana (FM only): Simon Brett returns with	7:05	The Archers
		7:20	Pick of the Week, with Chris
		8:05	Cellar Account: Gas and



10.15 Baroque Chamber Music:
Simon Standage, violin

1235 Weather
1240 The World at One, with Nick
Clarke
1245 The Archers (s) (r) 1.55
Shipping Forecast
1250 News; Classic Serial:
The final part of
Claudia's Caesar is the second
of a three-part radio version
by Eric Evans (s) (r)
1255 Special Assignment
1258 Good Reads: Edward Bichen
invites Sophie Grigson and
Paul Levy to talk about four
paperbacks (s)

1100 Jarvis reads the fifth of 12
parts
1105 Little Slightly on the Down:
The final part (r)
1125 The Financial Week, with
Heather Payton
1145 Feasting on the Archivers: It
Was a Zen Experience. Aiding
Porter Foster the last of a
three-course meal from the
BBC archives (s) (r)
1200-1245am News, (s) 1227
Weather 1233 Shipping
Forecast 1243 World Service
(LW only)

QUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM 97.9-99.3
MHz: 21-88-90.2, Radio 3: 90.2-92.4, Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM
Capital: 93.7-95.3MHz; 909kHz/330m, LBC: 1515kHz/255m; FM
Capital: 1548kHz/94m

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